WHAT IF™

MARVEL® COMICS GROUP

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# WHAT IF NOVA™ HAD BEEN FOUR OTHER PEOPLE?

FEATURING: THE FANTASTIC FOUR! PETER PARKER! DR. DOOM!

POSSIBLY THE MOST SENSATIONAL EPIC YOU'LL READ THIS MONTH!

THE MIGHTIEST HEROES! THE DEADLIEST VILLAINS! 4 TITANIC TALES!

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STAN LEE PRESENTS: A STUNNING SAGA OF AN ALTERNATE REALITY!

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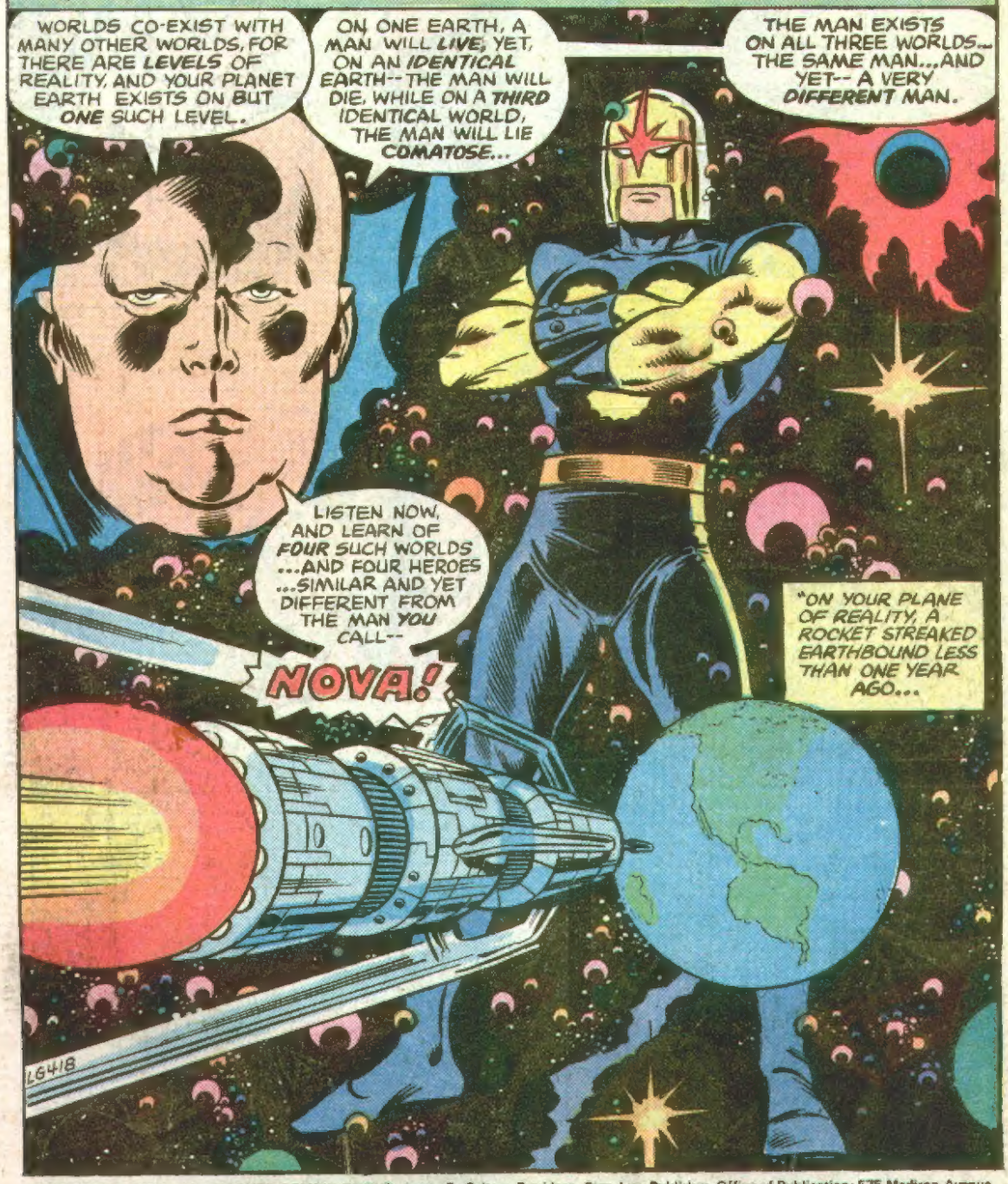
# WHAT IF... SOMEONE ELSE HAD BECOME NOVA?

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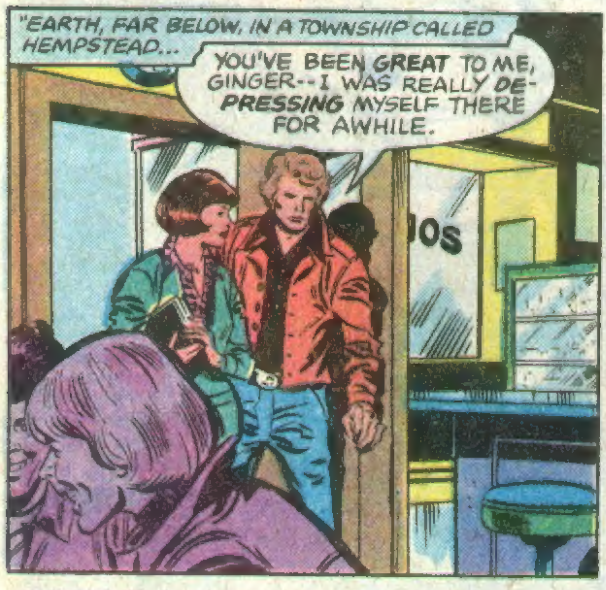
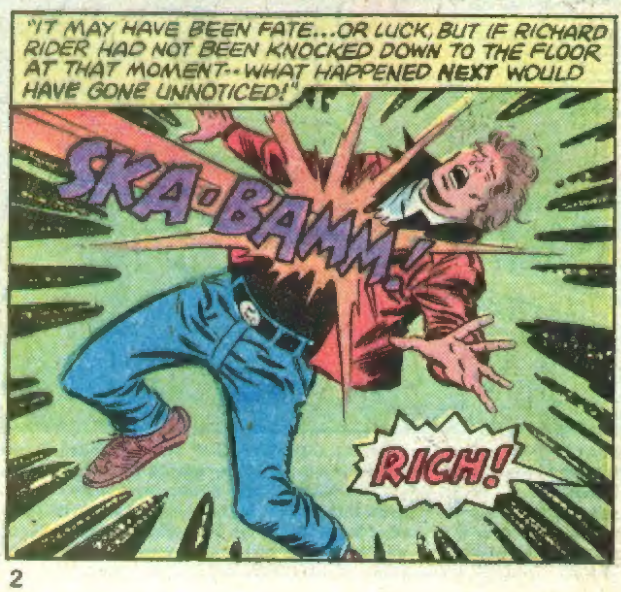
"ITS SOLE PASSENGER, A DESPERATE DYING MAN..."
I AM DYING, BUT I MUST NOT...NOT UNTIL I CAN FIND ZORR... AND AVENGE MY WORLD'S DESTRUCTION.
TWO BILLION FRIENDS--DEAD. MY WIFE...MY CHILDREN--GONE ...FOREVER!

I--I MUST TRANSFER MY CENTURION-POWERS...
...AND PRAY THAT WHOMEVER I'VE APPOINTED MY SUCCESSOR--IS WORTHY OF THE POWERS THAT ARE NOW HIS!


"EARTH, FAR BELOW, IN A TOWNSHIP CALLED HEMPSTEAD...
YOU'VE BEEN GREAT TO ME, GINGER--I WAS REALLY DE-PRESSING MYSELF THERE FOR AWHILE.

YOU TAKE YOURSELF TOO SERIOUSLY, CUTIE. YOU'VE GOT TO BE FREE. LAUGH A LITTLE MORE.
EASIER SAID THAN DONE.
ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU'RE DEALING WITH A CLASS-ONE INFERIORITY COMPLEX!

WELL, WELL, WELL! HI'YA, CREEP. HOW'S THE LOSER DOIN'?
HEY!


"IT MAY HAVE BEEN FATE...OR LUCK, BUT IF RICHARD RIDER HAD NOT BEEN KNOCKED DOWN TO THE FLOOR AT THAT MOMENT--WHAT HAPPENED NEXT WOULD HAVE GONE UNNOTICED!"
SKA-BAMM!
RICH!

CONTINUED AFTER 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

BEHOLD THE FIRST OF MANY ALTERNATES. IT BEGINS HERE ON A DARK SAVAGE *NIGHT*. THERE IS A FLASH OF STEEL, AND THEN THE FLOW OF SCARLET.

PETTY THIEF WILLIE DuBROW HAS JUST KILLED HIS FIRST VICTIM, AND NOW HE RUNS AS A GRIEF-STRICKEN WOMAN'S SCREAMS CHILL THE MARROW OF HIS BONE...

SHE *SAW* ME... SHE CAN IDENTIFY ME...

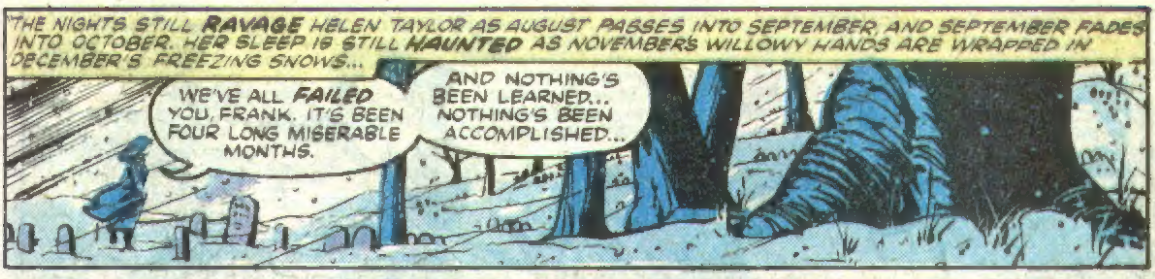
GOTTA GET OUTTA HERE... GOTTA *RUN!*

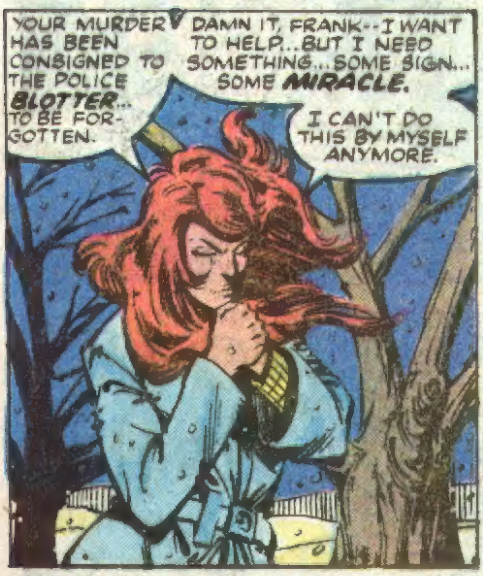
"THE FOG COVERS HIM LIKE A SHROUD AND HE VANISHES INTO DEEP PURPLE NIGHT, BUT NOT BEFORE HELEN TAYLOR SPITS OUT AN OATH SWORN OVER THE BODY OF HER DEAD HUSBAND...

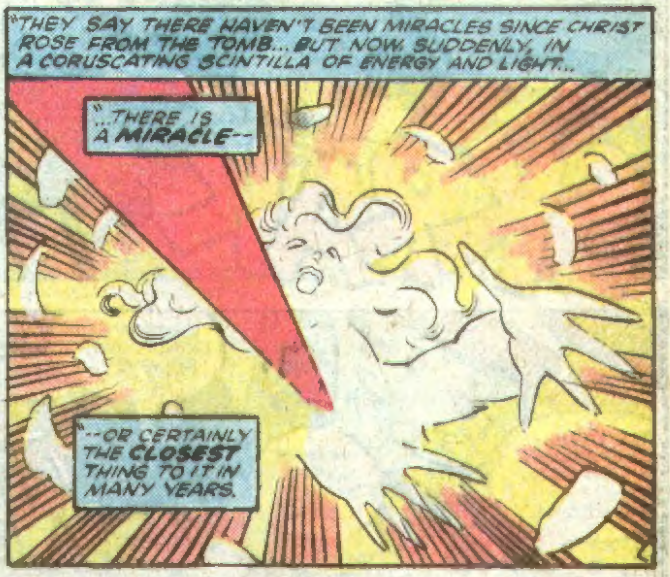
YOU-- YOU *KILLED* HIM! *STOP, MURDERER! STOP!*

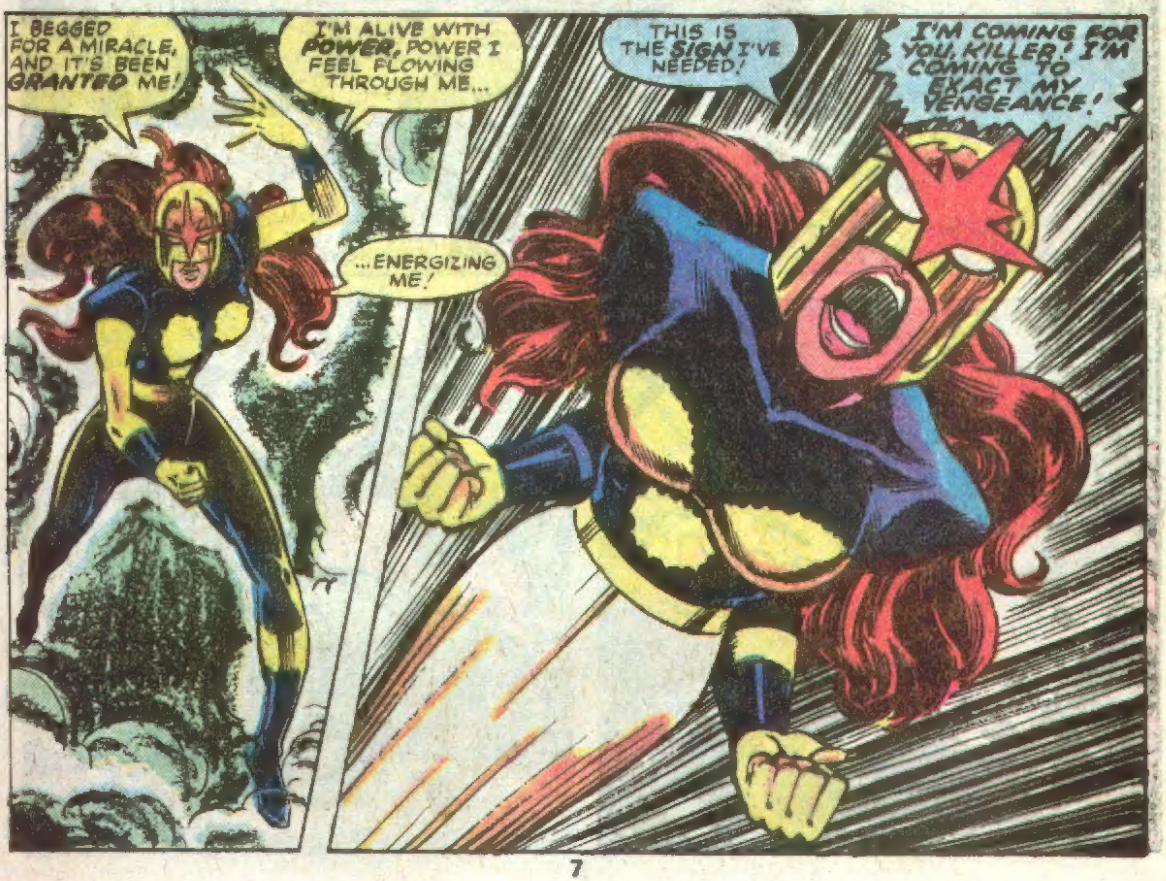
ART: *SIMONSON WIACEK*

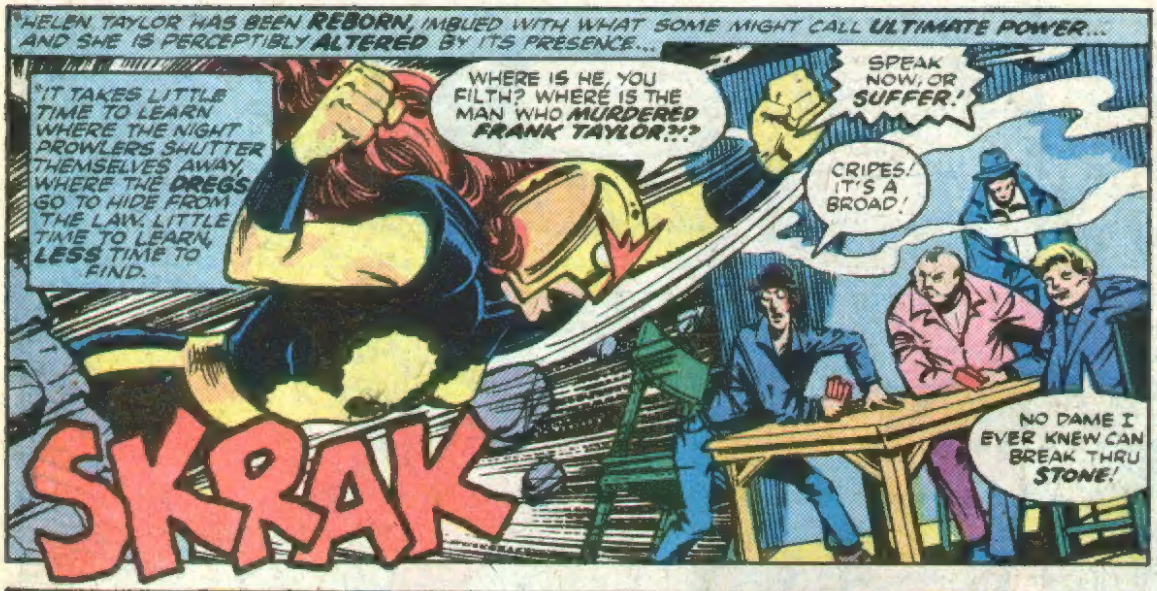
COLOR: YOMTOV


THE NIGHTS STILL RAVAGE HELEN TAYLOR AS AUGUST PASSES INTO SEPTEMBER, AND SEPTEMBER FADES INTO OCTOBER. HER SLEEP IS STILL HAUNTED AS NOVEMBER'S WILLOWY HANDS ARE WRAPPED IN DECEMBER'S FREEZING SNOWS...
WE'VE ALL FAILED YOU, FRANK. IT'S BEEN FOUR LONG MISERABLE MONTHS.
AND NOTHING'S BEEN LEARNED... NOTHING'S BEEN ACCOMPLISHED...

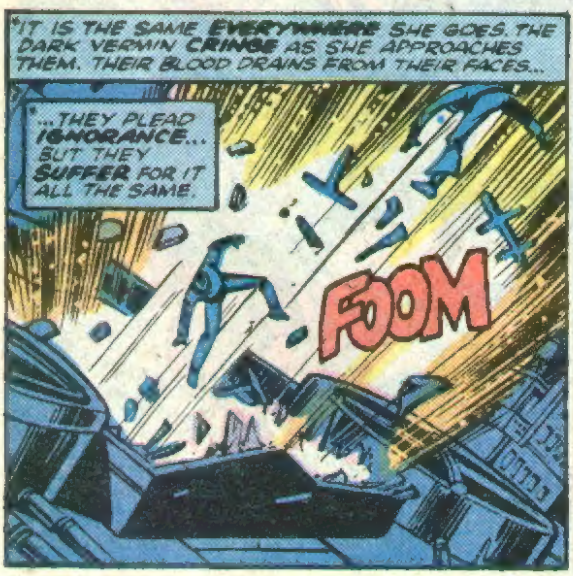

YOUR MURDER HAS BEEN CONSIGNED TO THE POLICE BLOTTER... TO BE FORGOTTEN.
DAMN IT, FRANK--I WANT TO HELP...BUT I NEED SOMETHING...SOME SIGN... SOME MIRACLE.
I CAN'T DO THIS BY MYSELF ANYMORE.


"THEY SAY THERE HAVEN'T BEEN MIRACLES SINCE CHRIST ROSE FROM THE TOMB... BUT NOW, SUDDENLY, IN A CORUSCATING SCINTILLA OF ENERGY AND LIGHT...
"...THERE IS A MIRACLE--
"--OR CERTAINLY THE CLOSEST THING TO IT IN MANY YEARS.

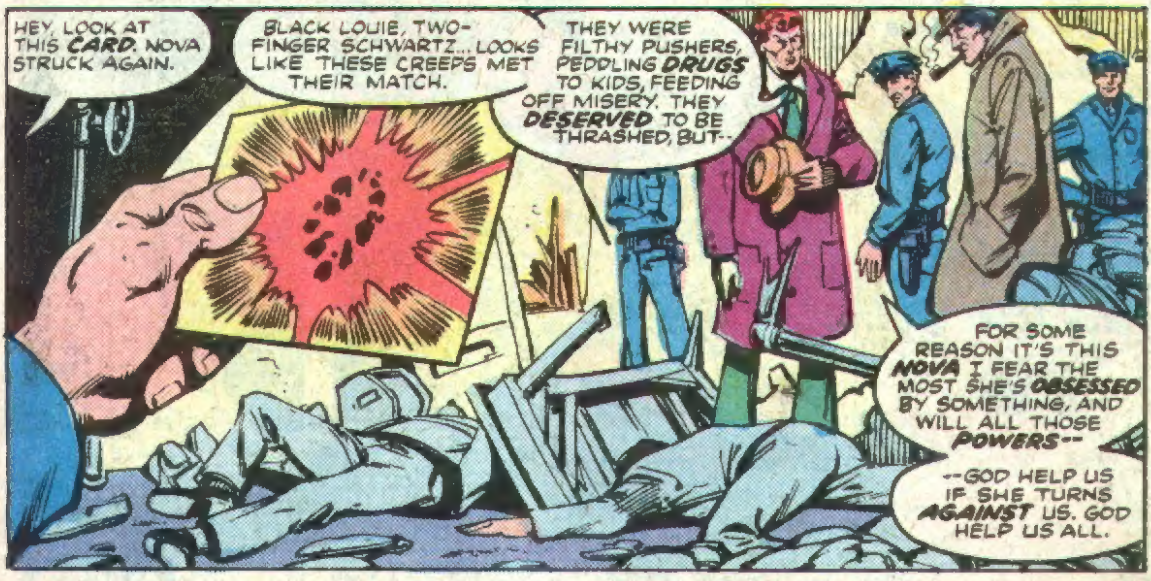

I BEGGED FOR A MIRACLE, AND IT'S BEEN GRANTED ME!
I'M ALIVE WITH POWER, POWER I FEEL FLOWING THROUGH ME...
...ENERGIZING ME!
THIS IS THE SIGN I'VE NEEDED!
I'M COMING FOR YOU, KILLER! I'M COMING TO EXACT MY VENGEANCE!


"HELEN TAYLOR HAS BEEN REBORN, IMBUED WITH WHAT SOME MIGHT CALL ULTIMATE POWER... AND SHE IS PERCEPTIBLY ALTERED BY ITS PRESENCE...
"IT TAKES LITTLE TIME TO LEARN WHERE THE NIGHT PROWLERS SHUTTER THEMSELVES AWAY, WHERE THE DREGS GO TO HIDE FROM THE LAW. LITTLE TIME TO LEARN, LESS TIME TO FIND.
WHERE IS HE, YOU FILTH? WHERE IS THE MAN WHO MURDERED FRANK TAYLOR?!?
SPEAK NOW, OR SUFFER!
CRIPES! IT'S A BROAD!
NO DAME I EVER KNEW CAN BREAK THRU STONE!
SKRAK

I'LL CRUSH YOUR BONES IF YOU FILTH DO NOT ANSWER ME!
WHERE IS THE MAN I SEEK?
LADY, WE DON'T KNOW... BELIEVE US!
WHAM
LORD! SHE'S TOSSIN US AROUND LIKE WE WUZ FEATHERS!


"IT IS THE SAME EVERYWHERE SHE GOES. THE DARK VERMIN CRINGE AS SHE APPROACHES THEM. THEIR BLOOD DRAINS FROM THEIR FACES...
...THEY PLEAD IGNORANCE... BUT THEY SUFFER FOR IT ALL THE SAME.
FOOM

JACK, THERE'S A FIGHT ON SOUTH STREET! MOVE IT!
THAT'S JUST A COUPLE OF BLOCKS FROM HERE.
WE'LL BE THERE IN SECONDS!

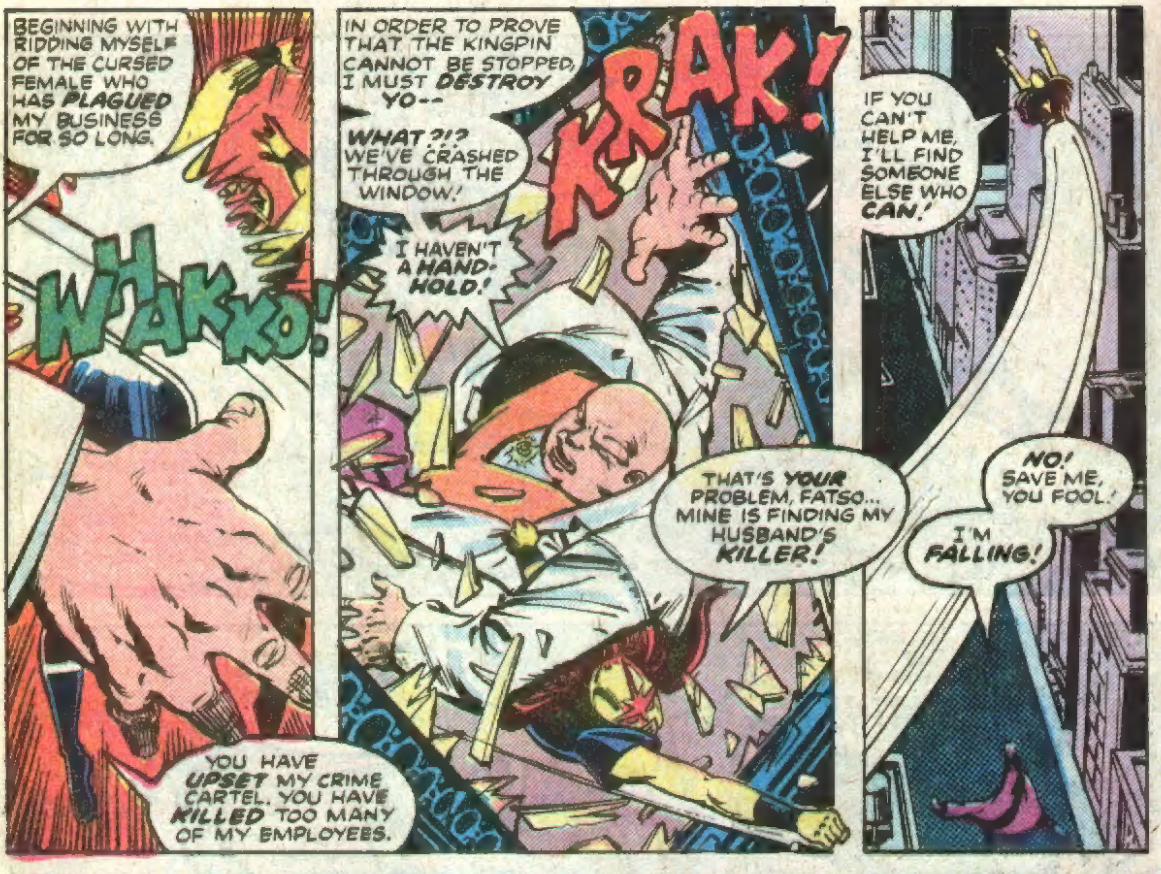

HEY, LOOK AT THIS CARD. NOVA STRUCK AGAIN.
BLACK LOUIE, TWO-FINGER SCHWARTZ... LOOKS LIKE THESE CREEPS MET THEIR MATCH.
THEY WERE FILTHY PUSHERS, PEDDLING DRUGS TO KIDS, FEEDING OFF MISERY. THEY DESERVED TO BE THRASHED, BUT--
FOR SOME REASON IT'S THIS NOVA I FEAR THE MOST. SHE'S OBSESSED BY SOMETHING, AND WILL ALL THOSE POWERS--
--GOD HELP US IF SHE TURNS AGAINST US. GOD HELP US ALL.

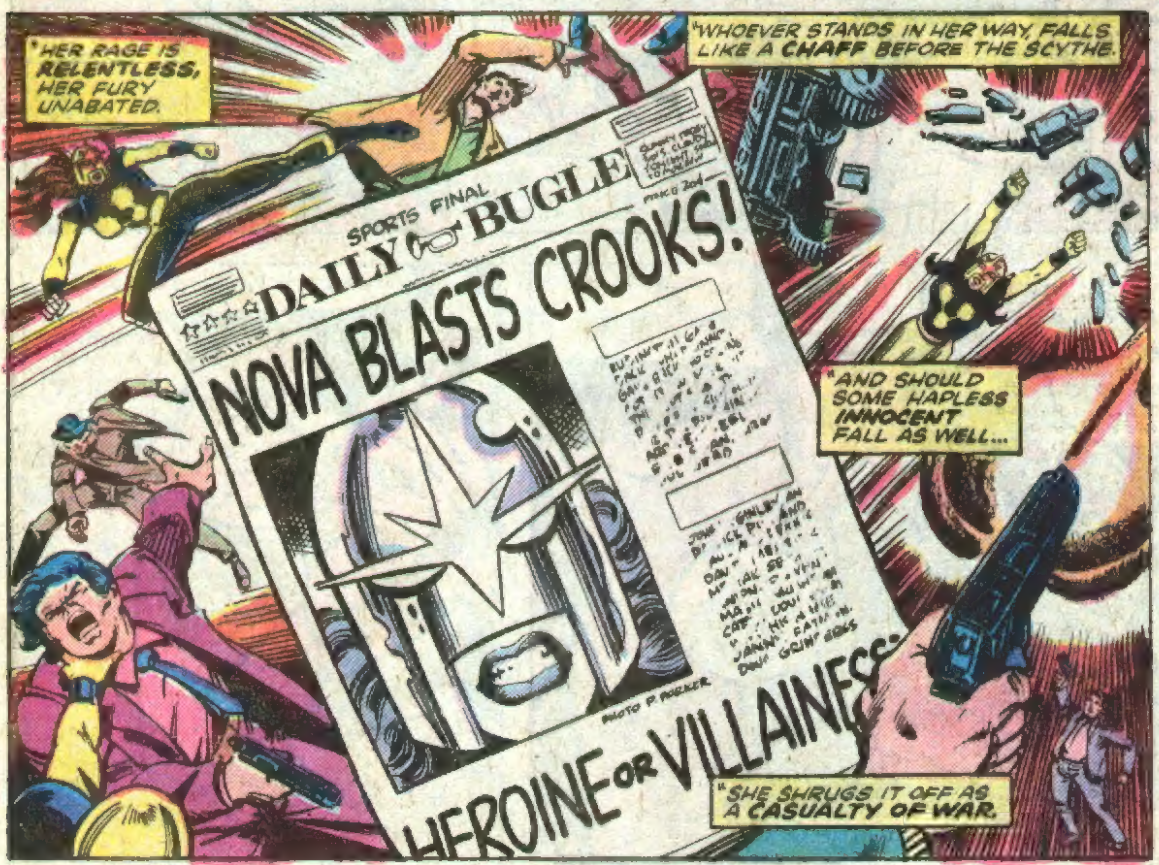
ELSEWHERE...
BLAST-- LOOK! SHE CAN'T BE STOPPED!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT-- BULLETS ARE BOUNCIN' OFF HER LIKE POPCORN!
WHAM!
WHAM!
Oh no... NO! SHE'S COMING RIGHT AT US!

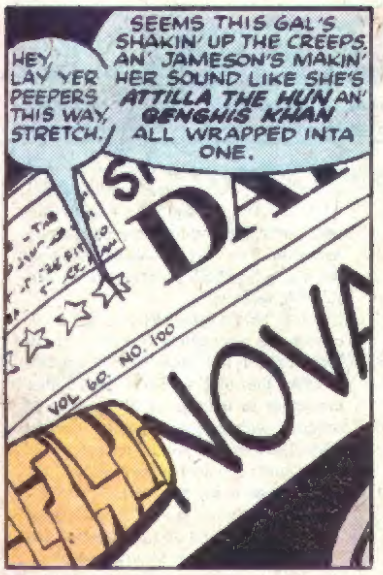
I WANT TO SEE YOUR BOSS! HE HAS HIS HAND IN EVERY FILTHY RACKET IN TOWN.
DO I HAVE TO CRUSH YOUR SKULLS?
WHERE IS HE?

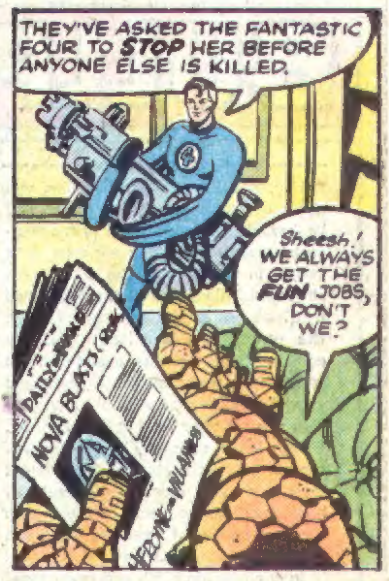
YOU MAY STOP YOUR MINDLESS BARAGE NOW, WOMAN.
YOU WISH TO SEE ME?
THAT'S RIGHT, MISTER. I WANT TO SEE YOU!

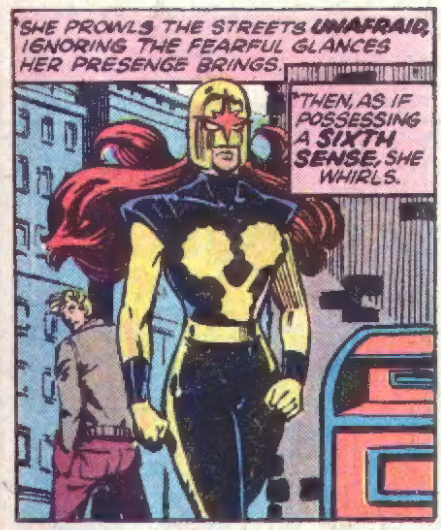
THEN DO NOT WASTE MY TIME.
THE KINGPIN HAS MANY DUTIES TO ATTEND TO THIS DAY.

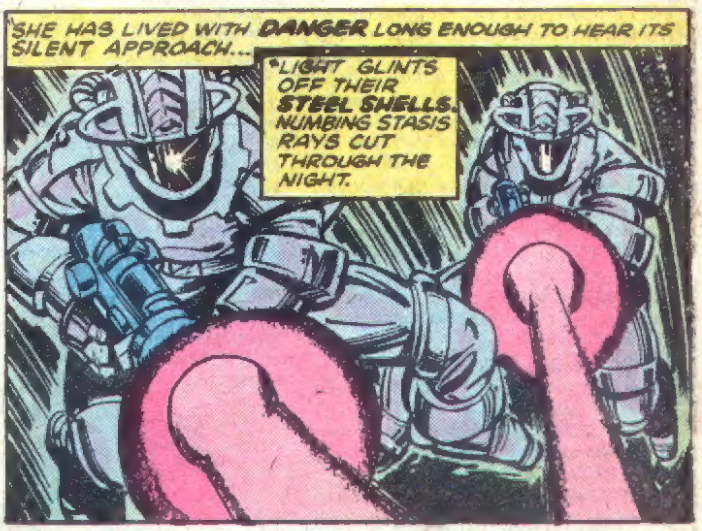

BEGINNING WITH RIDDING MYSELF OF THE CURSED FEMALE WHO HAS PLAGUED MY BUSINESS FOR SO LONG.
WHAKKO!
YOU HAVE UPSET MY CRIME CARTEL. YOU HAVE KILLED TOO MANY OF MY EMPLOYEES.
IN ORDER TO PROVE THAT THE KINGPIN CANNOT BE STOPPED, I MUST DESTROY YO--
KRAK!
WHAT ?!? WE'VE CRASHED THROUGH THE WINDOW!
I HAVEN'T A HAND-HOLD!
THAT'S YOUR PROBLEM, FATSO... MINE IS FINDING MY HUSBAND'S KILLER!
IF YOU CAN'T HELP ME, I'LL FIND SOMEONE ELSE WHO CAN!
NO! SAVE ME, YOU FOOL!
I'M FALLING!


"HER RAGE IS RELENTLESS, HER FURY UNABATED.
"WHOEVER STANDS IN HER WAY, FALLS LIKE A CHAFF BEFORE THE SCYTHE.
SPORTS FINAL
DAILY BUGLE
NOVA BLASTS CROOKS!
"AND SHOULD SOME HAPLESS INNOCENT FALL AS WELL...
HEROINE OR VILLAINESS
"SHE SHRUGS IT OFF AS A CASUALTY OF WAR.





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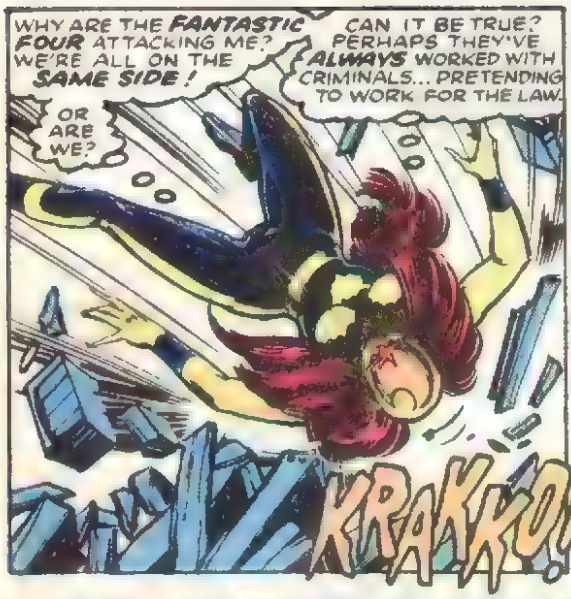
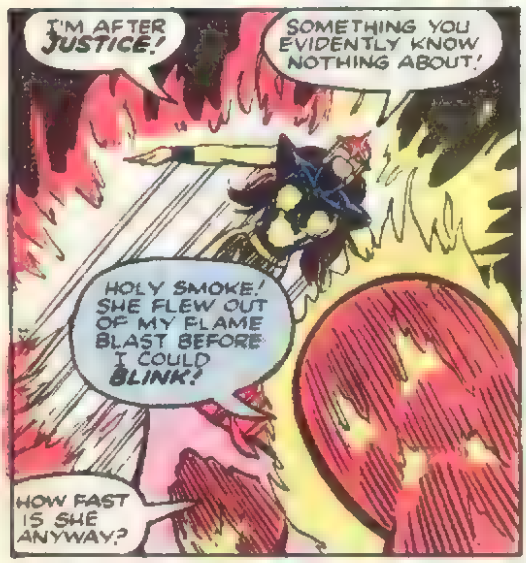

WHY ARE THE FANTASTIC FOUR ATTACKING ME? WE'RE ALL ON THE SAME SIDE!
CAN IT BE TRUE? PERHAPS THEY'VE ALWAYS WORKED WITH CRIMINALS... PRETENDING TO WORK FOR THE LAW.
OR ARE WE?
KRAKKO!

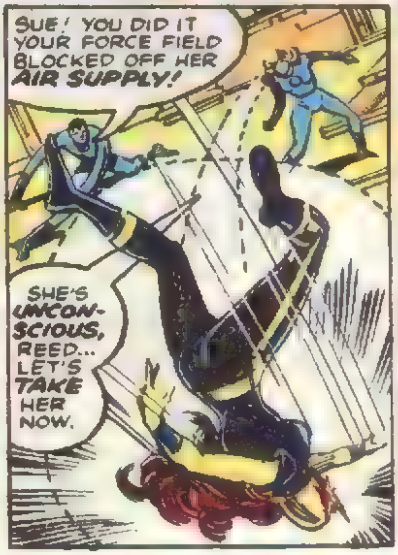
C'MON, LADY, JUST SURRENDER... WE DON'T WANNA HURT YOU.
ALL WE WANNA DO IS FIND OUT WHAT YOU'RE AFTER!
WHAT I'M AFTER, TORCH?

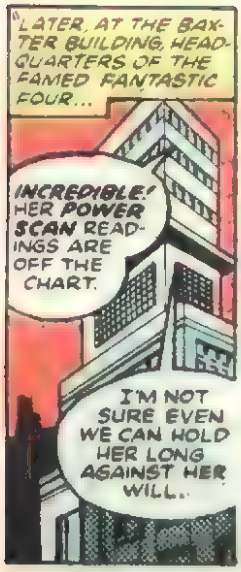

I'M AFTER JUSTICE!
SOMETHING YOU EVIDENTLY KNOW NOTHING ABOUT!
HOLY SMOKE! SHE FLEW OUT OF MY FLAME BLAST BEFORE I COULD BLINK!
HOW FAST IS SHE ANYWAY?

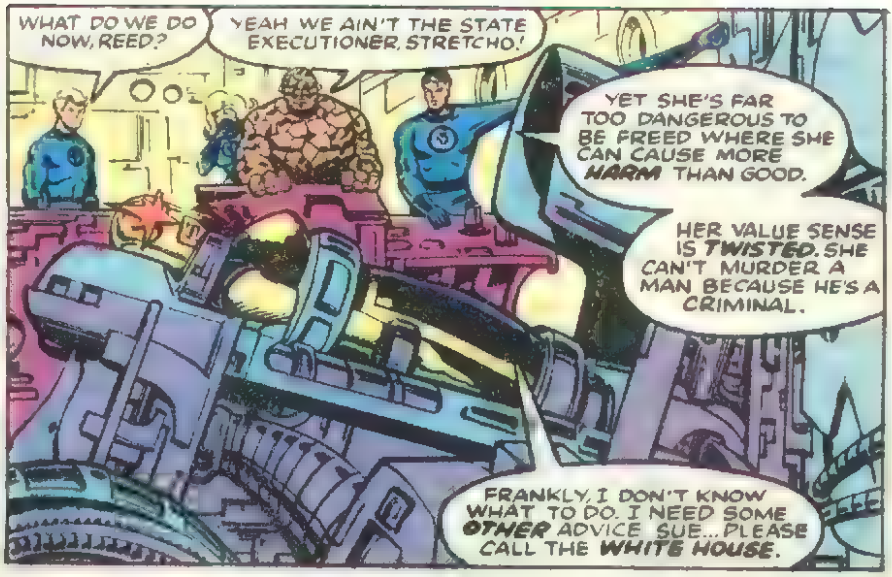
FAST ENOUGH TO ESCAPE IN SECONDS... UNLESS WE CAN STOP HER, JOHNNY!
WAP!
YAHOOO! YA DID IT, STRETCH, YA BAGGED ER!

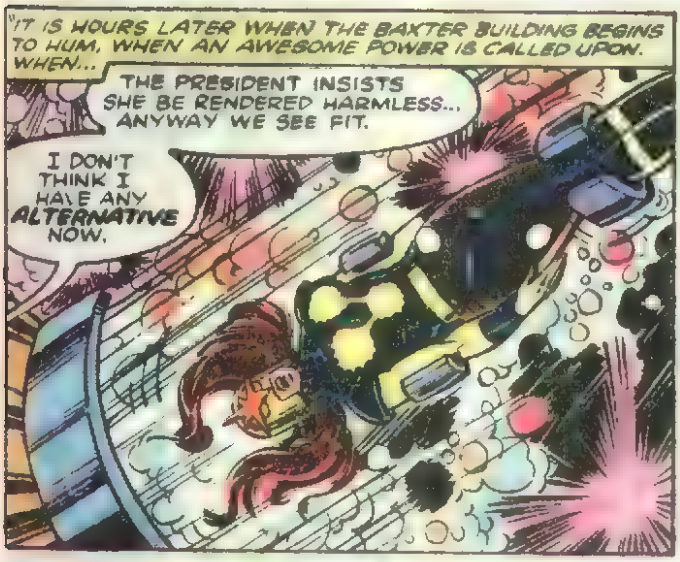
YOUR COMPATRIOT DID NOTHING MORE THAN DELAY ME, GRIMM!
WHAPP!
NOW, SINCE YOU FOUR WISH TO FIGHT ME--
--WE'LL BATTLE-- TO THE DEATH!

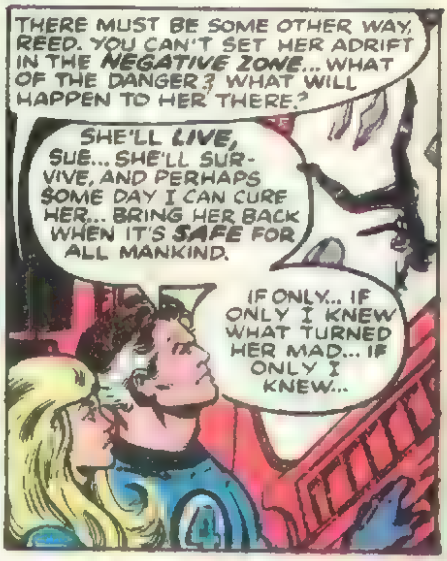
WH-WHAT? WHAT? I-- I CAN'T BREATHE... NO AIR...
...CAN'T FIGHT...

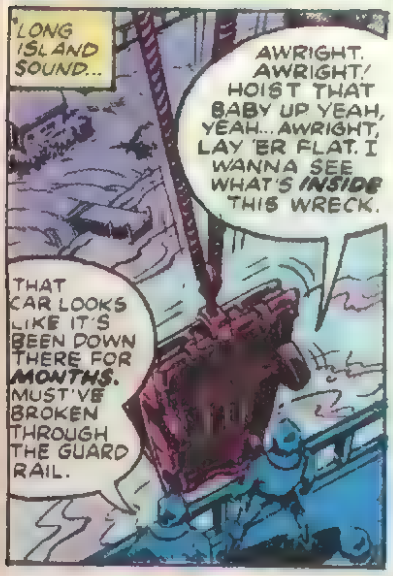

SUE! YOU DID IT YOUR FORCE FIELD BLOCKED OFF HER AIR SUPPLY!
SHE'S UNCONSCIOUS, REED... LET'S TAKE HER NOW.

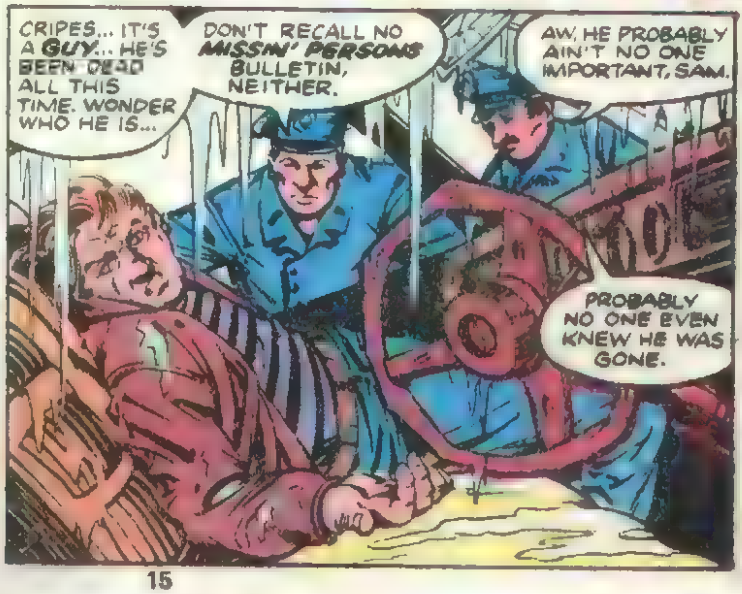

LATER, AT THE BAXTER BUILDING, HEADQUARTERS OF THE FAMED FANTASTIC FOUR...
INCREDIBLE! HER POWER SCAN READINGS ARE OFF THE CHART.
I'M NOT SURE EVEN WE CAN HOLD HER LONG AGAINST HER WILL..


WHAT DO WE DO NOW, REED?
YEAH WE AIN'T THE STATE EXECUTIONER, STRETCHO!
YET SHE'S FAR TOO DANGEROUS TO BE FREED WHERE SHE CAN CAUSE MORE HARM THAN GOOD.
HER VALUE SENSE IS TWISTED. SHE CAN'T MURDER A MAN BECAUSE HE'S A CRIMINAL.
FRANKLY, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO. I NEED SOME OTHER ADVICE SUE... PLEASE CALL THE WHITE HOUSE.


IT IS HOURS LATER WHEN THE BAXTER BUILDING BEGINS TO HUM, WHEN AN AWESOME POWER IS CALLED UPON. WHEN...
THE PRESIDENT INSISTS SHE BE RENDERED HARMLESS... ANYWAY WE SEE FIT.
I DON'T THINK I HAVE ANY ALTERNATIVE NOW.


THERE MUST BE SOME OTHER WAY, REED. YOU CAN'T SET HER ADRIFT IN THE NEGATIVE ZONE... WHAT OF THE DANGER? WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO HER THERE?
SHE'LL LIVE, SUE... SHE'LL SURVIVE, AND PERHAPS SOME DAY I CAN CURE HER... BRING HER BACK WHEN IT'S SAFE FOR ALL MANKIND.
IF ONLY... IF ONLY I KNEW WHAT TURNED HER MAD... IF ONLY I KNEW...


LONG ISLAND SOUND...
AWRIGHT. AWRIGHT! HOIST THAT BABY UP YEAH, YEAH... AWRIGHT, LAY 'ER FLAT. I WANNA SEE WHAT'S INSIDE THIS WRECK.
THAT CAR LOOKS LIKE IT'S BEEN DOWN THERE FOR MONTHS. MUST'VE BROKEN THROUGH THE GUARD RAIL.


CRIPES... IT'S A GUY... HE'S BEEN DEAD ALL THIS TIME. WONDER WHO HE IS...
DON'T RECALL NO MISSIN' PERSONS BULLETIN, NEITHER.
AW, HE PROBABLY AIN'T NO ONE IMPORTANT, SAM.
PROBABLY NO ONE EVEN KNEW HE WAS GONE.

OUR SECOND TALE CONCERNS A SECOND EARTH. IT IS A WORLD ***WITHOUT*** SUPER-HEROES... A WORLD WHERE NO HUMANS HAVE EVER BEEN BOMBARDED BY ***COSMIC RAYS...*** WHERE NO MAN HAS SUFFERED THE MIXED BLESSING OF A RADIOACTIVE ARACHNID'S ***BITE.***

AND WITHOUT SUCH PROMINENT EXAMPLES AS THE FANTASTIC FOUR AND SPIDER-MAN, IT IS A WORLD WHERE, WERE A MAN THE ***RECIPIENT*** OF SUPER-POWERS, THE THOUGHT MIGHT NEVER OCCUR TO PUT THOSE POWERS TO ALTRUISTIC ENDS.

INDEED, A MAN MIGHT NEVER DECIDE TO PUT THEM TO ANY ENDS AT ALL.

BUT EVENTS HAVE A WAY OF ***CHANGING*** ONE'S OUTLOOK.

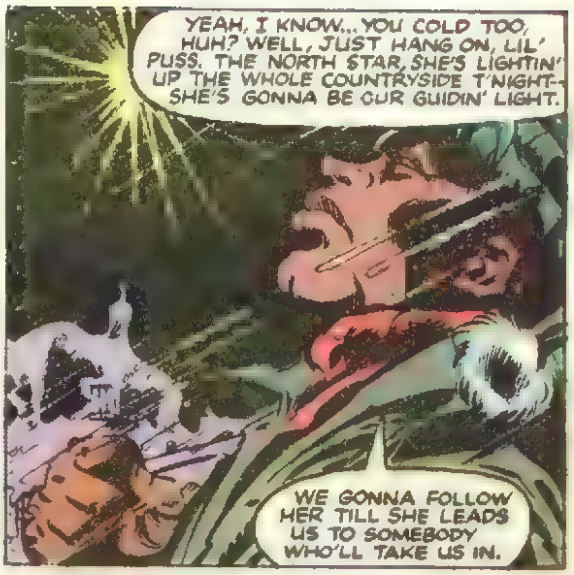
OUT! ***GET OUT!*** WE RUN A ***HOTEL*** HERE, NOT AN EMPLOYMENT AGENCY!

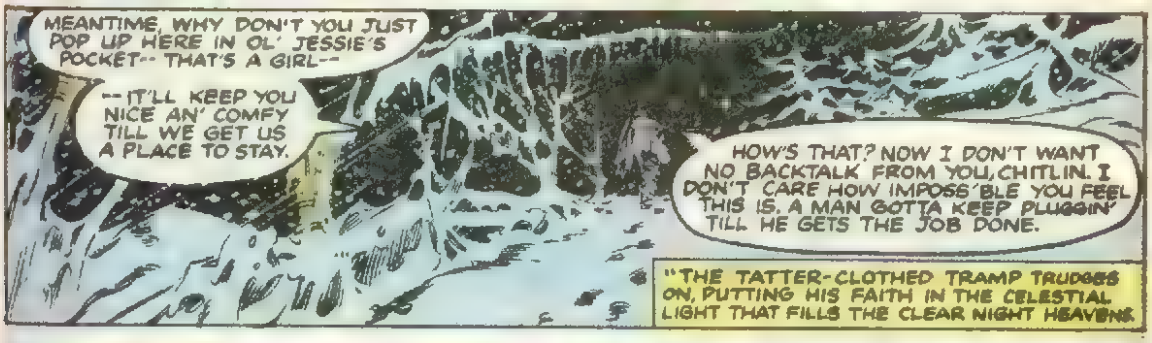
IF MY HARD-EARNED ***TAX DOLLARS*** AREN'T ENOUGH TO SUPPORT YOUR KIND, WHY DON'T YA JUST LIE DOWN AND ***DIE?***

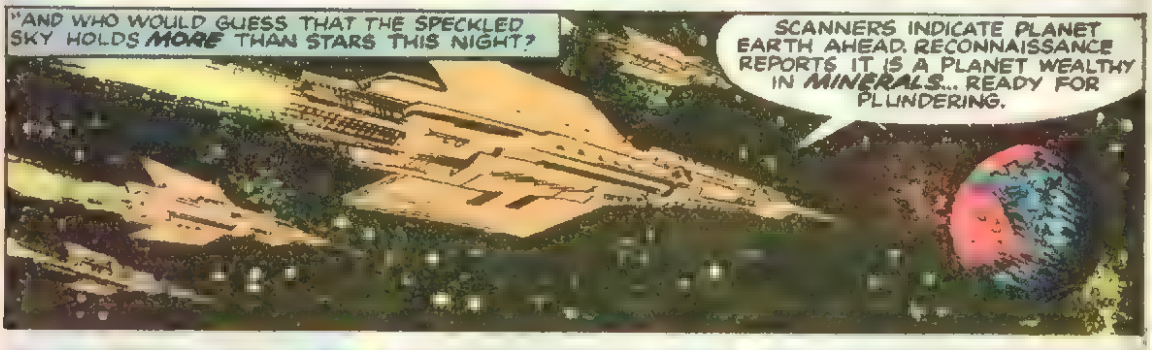
ART: INFANTINO SPRINGER

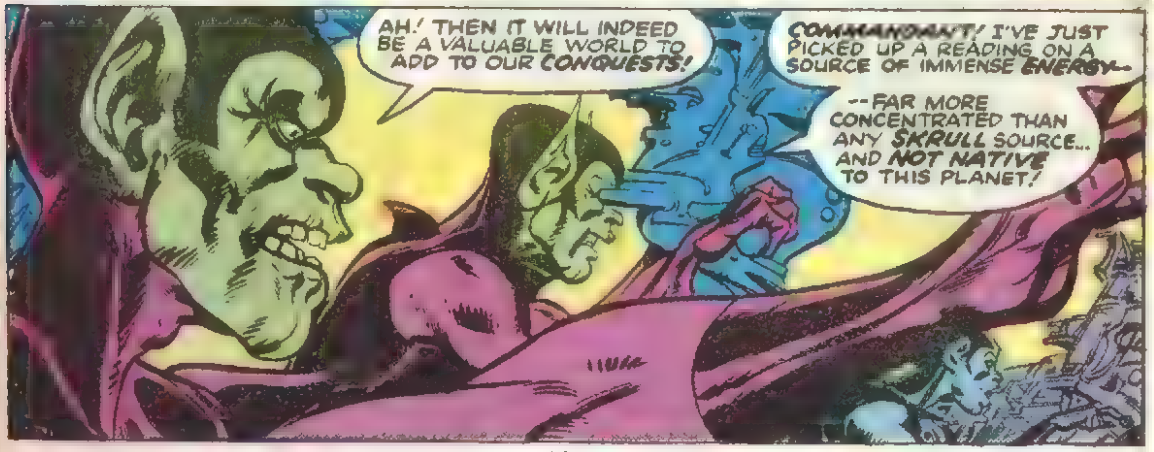
COLOR: SLIFER

I DON'T KNOW WHERE THIS COME FROM... AN' IF IT DIDN'T LOOK SO SILLY I'D WEAR THE BLAMED THING.
LORD KNOWS IT'D BE WARMER THAN THESE RAGS I'M WEARIN' NOW.
MRRP
WHAT SAY?


YEAH, I KNOW... YOU COLD TOO, HUH? WELL, JUST HANG ON, LIL' PUSS. THE NORTH STAR, SHE'S LIGHTIN' UP THE WHOLE COUNTRYSIDE T'NIGHT-- SHE'S GONNA BE OUR GUIDIN' LIGHT.
WE GONNA FOLLOW HER TILL SHE LEADS US TO SOMEBODY WHO'LL TAKE US IN.


MEANTIME, WHY DON'T YOU JUST POP UP HERE IN OL' JESSIE'S POCKET-- THAT'S A GIRL--
-- IT'LL KEEP YOU NICE AN' COMFY TILL WE GET US A PLACE TO STAY.
HOW'S THAT? NOW I DON'T WANT NO BACKTALK FROM YOU, CHITLIN. I DON'T CARE HOW IMPOSS'BLE YOU FEEL THIS IS. A MAN GOTTA KEEP PLUGGIN' TILL HE GETS THE JOB DONE.
"THE TATTER-CLOTHED TRAMP TRUDGES ON, PUTTING HIS FAITH IN THE CELESTIAL LIGHT THAT FILLS THE CLEAR NIGHT HEAVENS.


"AND WHO WOULD GUESS THAT THE SPECKLED SKY HOLDS MORE THAN STARS THIS NIGHT?
SCANNERS INDICATE PLANET EARTH AHEAD. RECONNAISSANCE REPORTS IT IS A PLANET WEALTHY IN MINERALS... READY FOR PLUNDERING.


AH! THEN IT WILL INDEED BE A VALUABLE WORLD TO ADD TO OUR CONQUESTS!
COMMANDANT! I'VE JUST PICKED UP A READING ON A SOURCE OF IMMENSE ENERGY--
--FAR MORE CONCENTRATED THAN ANY SKRULL SOURCE... AND NOT NATIVE TO THIS PLANET!

THE COMMENDATIONS WE WOULD RECEIVE FOR LOCATING A NEW ENERGY SOURCE WOULD MAKE US REVERED ON THE HOMEWORLD.

SARAKAR, TELL THE FLEET TO STAND BY-- WE DON'T WANT TO TAKE A CHANCE WE MIGHT OBLITERATE THIS SOURCE WITH A FULL-SCALE INVASION.

FIRST WE MUST *ISOLATE* IT... PLUCK IT FROM THIS MUDBALL. THEN, AND ONLY THEN, CAN THE PLUNDERING OF THIS INSIGNIFICANT WORLD BEGIN.

BUT NOT JUST *ANYONE* WILL SEEK IT OUT. IF ANOTHER SHIPS CREW WERE TO GO PLANETSIDE, THEY WOULD DOUBTLESS ATTEMPT TO TAKE *CREDIT* FOR THE DISCOVERY BEFORE THE KING. I *KNOW* HOW WE SKRULLS ARE.

SO *WE* SHALL GO. AS FLAGSHIP COMMANDER, NONE DARE QUESTION MY AUTHORITY. BLYTHMERC, PREPARE TO BREAK FORMATION.

AYE, AYE, COMMANDANT.

ESTIMATED TIME OF LANDING: 3.57 STIXEZ.

MEANWHILE, THE STAR-GUIDED SEARCH OF ANOTHER MIGHT WELL BE OVER...

SEE, LIL' WONDER, I TOL' YOU--YOU JUS' GOTTA KEEP PLUGGIN' TILL YOU GET WHAT YOU WANT. IF THE *HEARTS* OF THE FAMILY THAT LIVES HERE ARE AS WARM AS THEM *LIGHTS* LOOK--

--THEN WE GOT US A PLACE TO STAY T'NIGHT.

"A POLITE RAP ON THE DOOR LATER...

'SCUSE ME, MA'AM. I DON'T MEAN TO TROUBLE YOU NONE, BUT ME AN' MY CAT, WE'RE LOOKIN' FOR A PLACE TO *STAY* FOR THE NIGHT.

NOW, DON'T GET ME WRONG, MA'AM-- I'M NOT ASKIN' FOR BLIND HOSPITALITY-- I'LL *WORK* FOR IT. ANYTHIN' THAT NEEDS DOIN', I'LL DO GLADLY.

WELL, I...

OH... ALL RIGHT, BUT LET ME *WARN* YOU-- YOU MIGHT BE LETTING YOURSELF IN FOR MORE THAN YOU CAN *HANDLE*, YOUNG MAN.

MA'AM?

DO YOU LIKE CHILDREN?

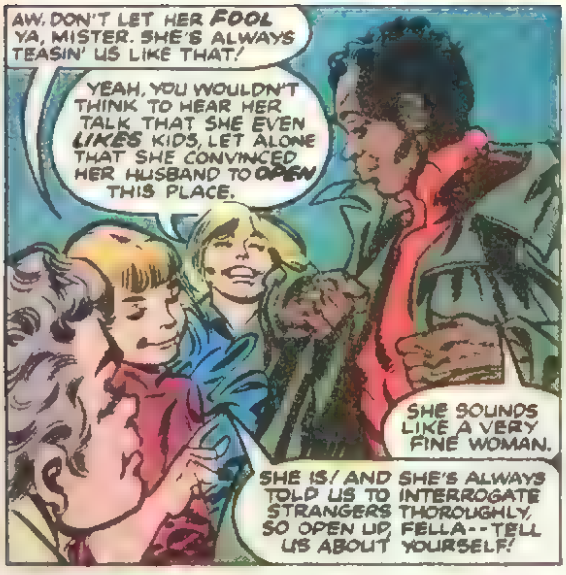
CHILDREN?

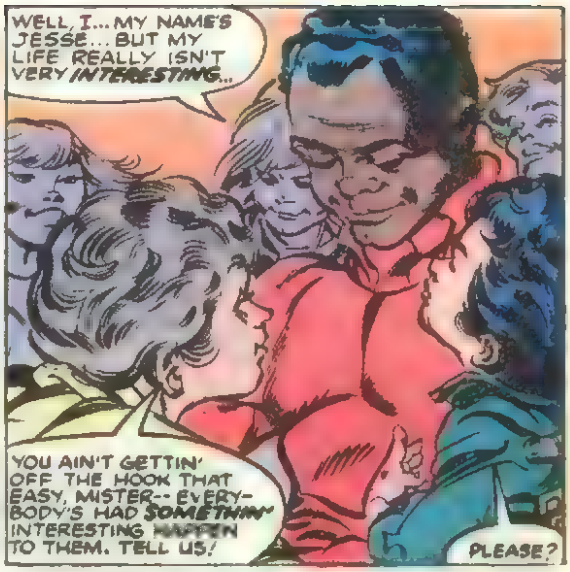
YOU PROBABLY DIDN'T NOTICE THE *SIGN*-- WITH ALL THIS SNOW-- BUT THIS IS AN *ORPHANAGE*.

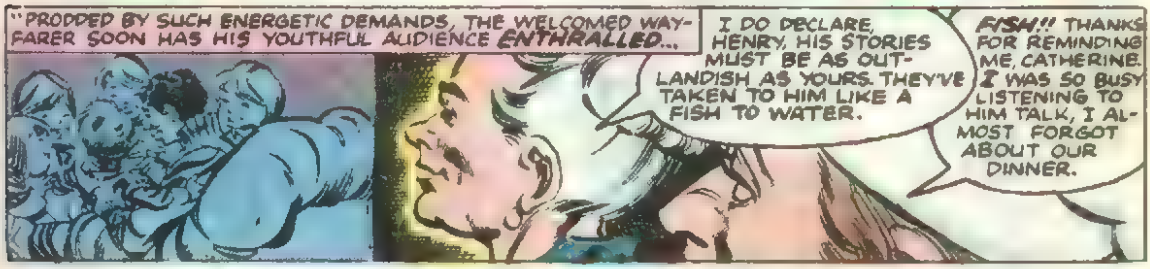
AND WE GOT ALL SORTS OF LITTLE RASCALS IN HERE.

ZOOM.

Dub-dub-dubadub!



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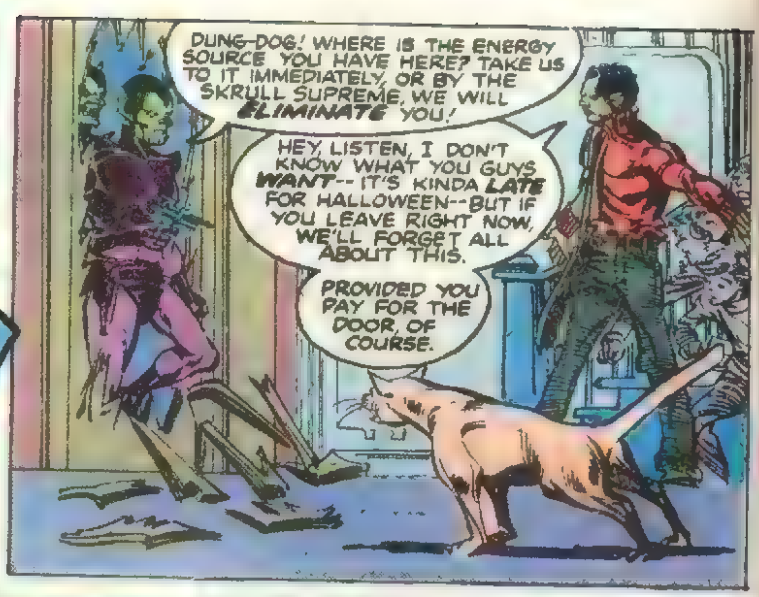
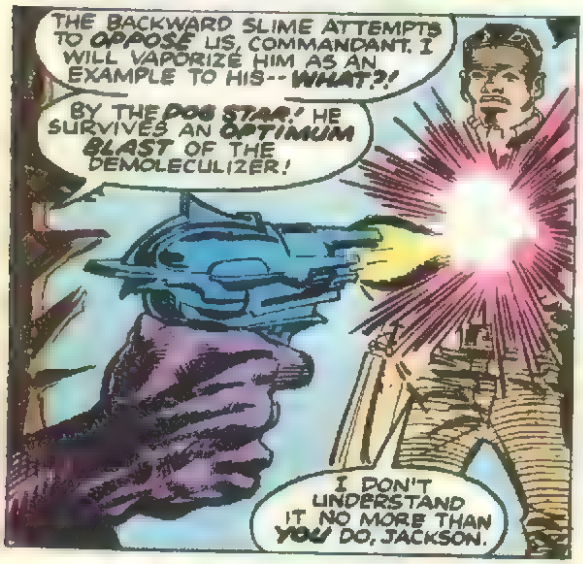
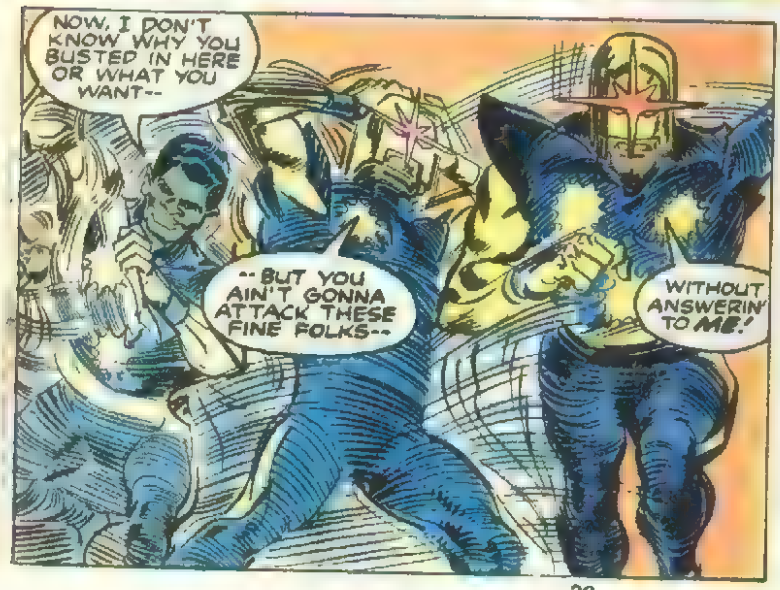
"--BY FORCE!"
SHRAM!


DUNG-DOG! WHERE IS THE ENERGY SOURCE YOU HAVE HERE? TAKE US TO IT IMMEDIATELY, OR BY THE SKRULL SUPREME, WE WILL ELIMINATE YOU!
HEY, LISTEN, I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU GUYS WANT-- IT'S KINDA LATE FOR HALLOWEEN--BUT IF YOU LEAVE RIGHT NOW, WE'LL FORGET ALL ABOUT THIS.
PROVIDED YOU PAY FOR THE DOOR, OF COURSE.

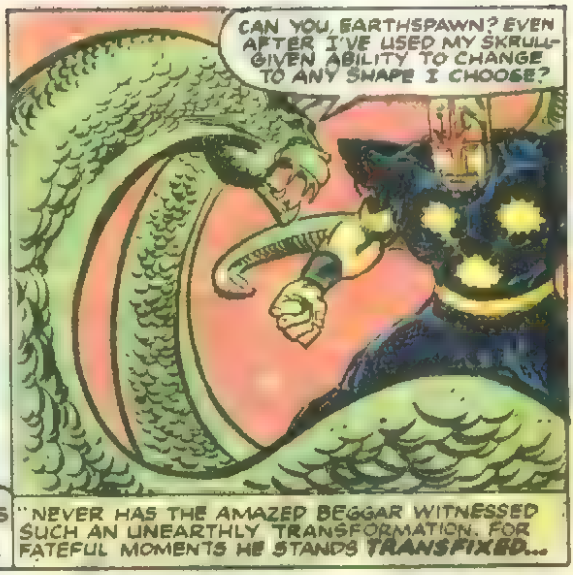

THE BACKWARD SLIME ATTEMPTS TO OPPOSE US, COMMANDANT. I WILL VAPORIZE HIM AS AN EXAMPLE TO HIS--WHAT?!
BY THE DOG STAR! HE SURVIVES AN OPTIMUM BLAST OF THE DEMOLECULIZER!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT NO MORE THAN YOU DO, JACKSON.

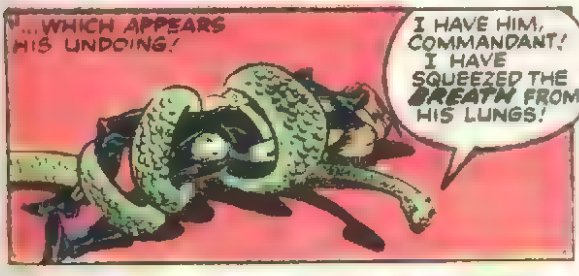
ALL I KNOW'S THAT THE SAME DAY I FOUND THIS SILLY COSTUME, I ALSO FOUND OUT NOTHIN' COULD HURT ME NO MORE!

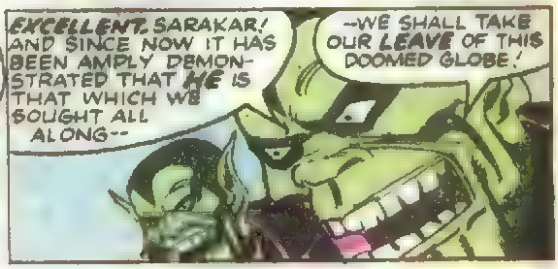

NOW, I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU BUSTED IN HERE OR WHAT YOU WANT--
--BUT YOU AIN'T GONNA ATTACK THESE FINE FOLKS--
WITHOUT ANSWERIN' TO ME!

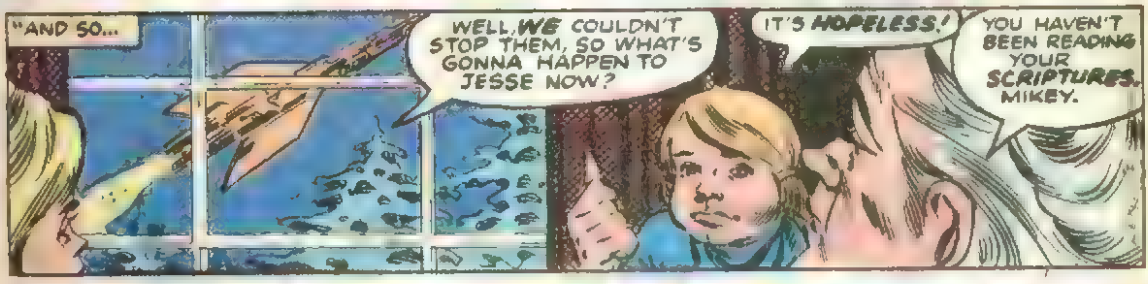
GET BACK, CHILDREN--GET INTO THE OTHER ROOM.
OKAY, CATHY--BUT ONLY IF YOU COME TOO!
YOU COULD GET HURT AS EASILY AS US!

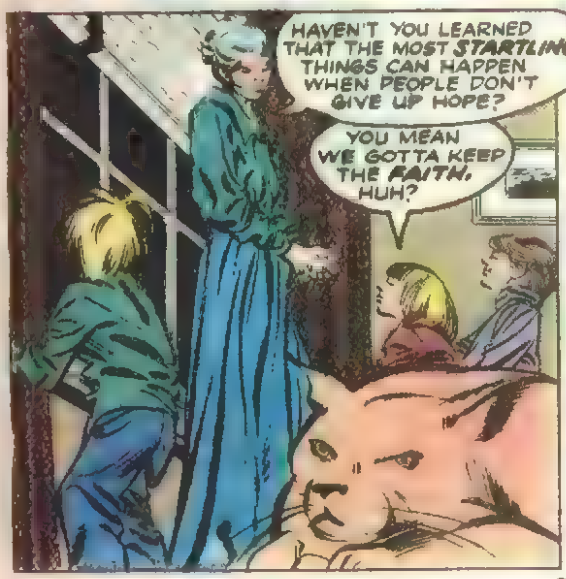
ALLA YOU GO ON NOW--GET YOURSELVES OUT OF HERE! I CAN HANDLE THESE TWO.

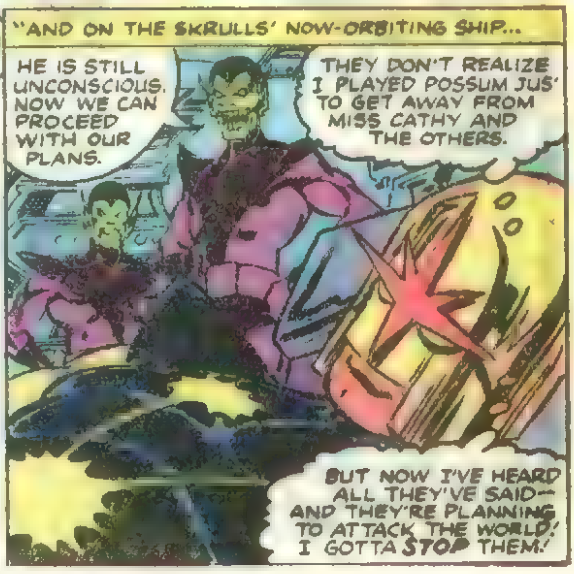

CAN YOU, EARTHSPAWN? EVEN AFTER I'VE USED MY SKRULL-GIVEN ABILITY TO CHANGE TO ANY SHAPE I CHOOSE?
"NEVER HAS THE AMAZED BEGGAR WITNESSED SUCH AN UNEARTHLY TRANSFORMATION. FOR FATEFUL MOMENTS HE STANDS TRANSFIXED...


"...WHICH APPEARS HIS UNDOING!
I HAVE HIM, COMMANDANT! I HAVE SQUEEZED THE BREATH FROM HIS LUNGS!


EXCELLENT, SARAKAR! AND SINCE NOW IT HAS BEEN AMPLY DEMONSTRATED THAT HE IS THAT WHICH WE SOUGHT ALL ALONG--
--WE SHALL TAKE OUR LEAVE OF THIS DOOMED GLOBE!


"AND SO...
WELL, WE COULDN'T STOP THEM, SO WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN TO JESSE NOW?
IT'S HOPELESS!
YOU HAVEN'T BEEN READING YOUR SCRIPTURES, MIKEY.


HAVEN'T YOU LEARNED THAT THE MOST STARTLING THINGS CAN HAPPEN WHEN PEOPLE DON'T GIVE UP HOPE?
YOU MEAN WE GOTTA KEEP THE FAITH, HUH?


"AND ON THE SKRULLS' NOW-ORBITING SHIP...
HE IS STILL UNCONSCIOUS. NOW WE CAN PROCEED WITH OUR PLANS.
THEY DON'T REALIZE I PLAYED POSSUM JUS' TO GET AWAY FROM MISS CATHY AND THE OTHERS.
BUT NOW I'VE HEARD ALL THEY'VE SAID--AND THEY'RE PLANNING TO ATTACK THE WORLD! I GOTTA STOP THEM!

"SUDDENLY, THE BLACK NOVA LEAPS TO HIS FEET...
NO! YOU AIN'T GONNA DO IT!
WPK!
DOOFF QUICKLY DO SOMETHING! HE'S AWAKE!
AN EARTH TIGER FORM SHOULD STOP HIM!
RRRARH! HE'S TOO POWERFUL, COMMANDANT! YOU MUST SIGNAL THE INVASION --BEFORE WE ARE OVERCOME!
SORRY, MISTER-- BUT I CAN'T JUS' ALLOW THAT T' HAPPEN.
FOOL! ONLY SOMETHING CATASTROPHIC COULD HALT OUR INVASION AT THIS POINT!
THE ENTIRE FLEET HAS PLACED THEIR FAITH IN MY LEADERSHIP! I HAVE LED THEM ON A THOUSAND CONQUESTS!
AND I SHALL GIVE THEM ORDERS TO COMMENCE THE INVASION --NOW!
IF YOU'S THE CAP'N AN' THEY'S THE FOLLOWERS--
--IT LOOKS LIKE I GOT NO CHOICE...

I GOTTA TAKE OUT THE MAN AT THE TOP!

NO YOU MANIAC-- DON'T! TO DESTROY THAT CONSOLE IS SUICIDE!

I KNOW, SON--I KNOW!

"AND ON THE NOW-SAFE SPHERE BELOW...

LOOK! THE NORTH STAR'S GETTING BRIGHTER!

WE READ ABOUT THOSE IN SCIENCE CLASS. WHEN A STAR GOES BIG LIKE THAT, IT'S CALLED A NOVA. BUT WHATZIT MEAN, CAT?

SOMETHING GOOD, I'LL BET!

YOU THINK IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH JESSE?

I'M CERTAIN IT DOES, JONATHAN--BUT JUST HOW I COULDN'T SAY.

BUT SUCH OMENS HAVE BEEN GIVEN BEFORE--AND I'VE A FEELING IT'S A CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION!

YOU CHILDREN WANT SOME COCOA?

INFINITE VARIATIONS ON A SINGLE CRITICAL OCCURRENCE...

BUT NOW WE MOVE ON TO A NOVA SOMEWHAT *DIFFERENT* FROM THE OTHERS WE'VE SEEN. A NOVA WHO MIGHT BE SOMEWHAT FAMILIAR UNDER A DIFFERENT SET OF CIRCUMSTANCES...

AND NOW, STUDENTS, FOR A DEMONSTRATION OF HOW WE CAN CONTROL *RADIOACTIVE RAYS* HERE IN THE LABORATORY...

"BUT, AS THE EXPERIMENT BEGINS, NO ONE NOTICES A TINY SPIDER DESCENDING FROM THE CEILING ON AN ALMOST INVISIBLE STRAND OF WEB...

"A SPIDER WHOM FATE HAS GIVEN A STARRING, IF BRIEF, ROLE TO PLAY IN THE DRAMA OF LIFE.

"ACCIDENTALLY ABSORBING A FANTASTIC AMOUNT OF RADIOACTIVITY, THE DYING INSECT, IN SUDDEN SHOCK, BITES THE *NEAREST* LIVING THING AT THE SPLIT SECOND BEFORE LIFE EBBS FROM ITS RADIOACTIVE BODY...

ART: *ANDRU GIACOIA*

"ON YOUR WORLD, YOUNG PARKER RECOVERED FROM HIS ACCIDENT ONLY TO LEARN HE HAD SOMEHOW ACQUIRED THE PROPORTIONAL POWER OF A SPIDER.

"ON THIS WORLD, HOWEVER, PETER PARKER IS NOT QUITE SO LUCKY...

AMBULANCE

"...AS THE SPIDER THAT BIT HIM HAD ABSORBED A GREATER DOSE OF RADIATION THAN PARKER COULD METABOLIZE.

LOOK AT HIM, HARRY! HE'S WHITE AS A SHEET.

I'M AFRAID THIS KID BOUGHT IT.

THERE'S STILL A CHANCE, JACK-- REMEMBER THAT RADIOACTIVE CONTROL UNIT STARK INDUSTRIES LOANED US FOR EXPERIMENTATION?

IT JUST MIGHT TURN THE TRICK!

"PARKER'S WRITHING BODY IS WHEELED INTO THE HOSPITAL'S SPECIAL RADIOACTIVE WARD, WHILE..."

DOCTOR, I'M BEN PARKER! PETER'S UNCLE... HOW'S MY BOY DOING?

HE'S GOT TO BE ALL RIGHT, DOCTOR. TELL US HE'LL LIVE.

MRS PARKER, I CAN'T PROMISE ANYTHING. HE'S SUFFERED A MASSIVE DOSE OF RADIATION POISONING.

WE'VE NEVER WORKED ON A CASE LIKE HIS BEFORE. WE JUST DON'T KNOW IF--?

MRS. PARKER!

MAY!

NO! PETER MUSTN'T DIE! HE-- Uhhh... MY HEART!

"THE FRAGILE OLD WOMAN FAINTS AT THE NEWS OF HER NEPHEW'S CRITICAL ILLNESS BUT..."

MY SWEET HEAVEN-- DOCTOR! SHE HAS A WEAK HEART. PLEASE... DO SOMETHING!

WE'LL DO OUR BEST, MR. PARKER!

NURSE! WE'VE GOT A RED BLANKET CASE!

MOVE IT!

"MAY PARKER'S UNCONSCIOUS BODY IS WHEELED INTO THE EMERGENCY WARD. IMMEDIATELY, THE FINEST DOCTORS ON CALL ARE AT THE LOVING WOMAN'S SIDE.

"BEN PARKER SLUMPS INTO HIS CHAIR...WEAK, TIRED, AND ALL-TOO WORN OUT, THE GENTLE OLD MAN PRAYS..."



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BEN SITS SILENT THROUGH THE NIGHT, GRIEVING FOR THE TWO PEOPLE HE LOVES MOST IN THE WORLD. THEN...

D-DOCTOR...? PLEASE, TELL ME--

YOUR NEPHEW PETER WILL PULL THROUGH, BEN--THOUGH I CAN'T PROMISE HE'LL EVER BE ABLE TO WALK AGAIN.

BUT WE COULDN'T SAVE MAY. SHE DIED JUST A FEW MINUTES AGO. I'M SORRY, BEN. I TRULY AM.

OH, MY GOD-- NO--NO! NOT MY DEAR MAY! NO!

"A LOVING LIFE IS LOST TO HIM, BUT OTHERS CONTINUE TO LIVE... SUCH IS THE WAY MANKIND PROGRESSES...

PETER, I'M SORRY ABOUT YOUR AUNT. SHE WAS A LOVELY HUMAN BEING. I--I THOUGHT OF HER AS MY OWN AUNT.

SHE DIED BECAUSE OF ME, BETTY... BECAUSE OF MY STUPIDITY... BECAUSE I LET A BLASTED RADIO-ACTIVE SPIDER PARALYZE ME FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.

I'M A JONAH... BAD LUCK FOLLOWS ME WHEREVER I GO. MY PARENTS DIED... NOW IT'S MY AUNT.

IF YOU VALUE YOUR LIFE, BETTY-- GET AWAY FROM ME NOW! GET AWAY OR I'LL BE THE DEATH OF YOU!

"AND SO, IT IS A BITTER PETER PARKER WHO SURROUNDS HIMSELF WITH HIS SCHOOLWORK, SHUNTING HIMSELF AWAY FROM OTHERS HIS AGE... CONCERNED NOT WITH HUMANITY...

"... BUT WITH HIMSELF.

PETER, YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORK TODAY... IT'S FESTIVAL EVE!

COME ON OUT... ENJOY THE FUN!

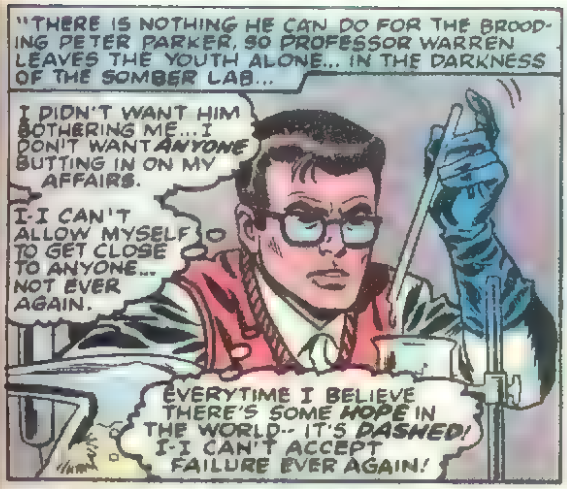
SORRY, PROFESSOR WARREN, BUT I'VE GOT TOO MUCH WORK TO DO.

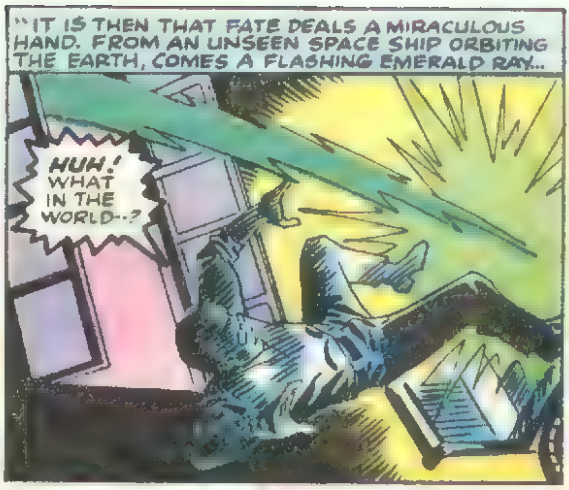
I'M SO CLOSE TO COMPLETING MY WORK THAT I DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO DISTURB ME.

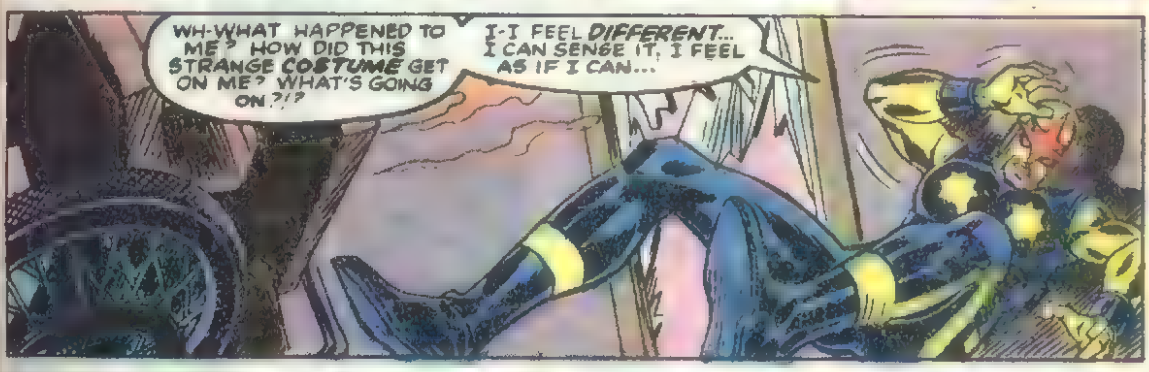
ALL RIGHT, PETER, BUT IT'S NOT HEALTHY TO BE SO INVOLVED WITH WORK THAT YOU DON'T ENJOY A NORMAL LIFE.

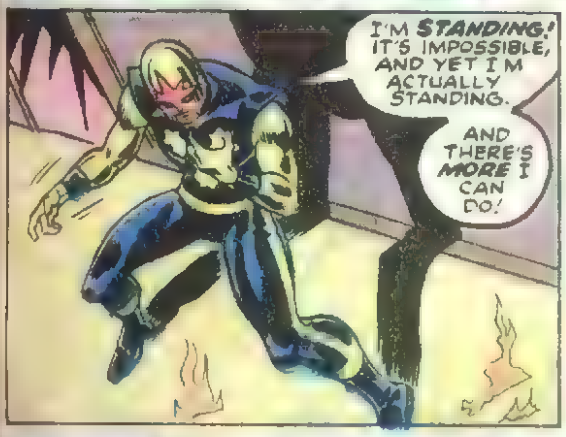
YOU FORGET, PROFESSOR-- WHAT COULD I POSSIBLY DO AT THE FESTIVAL? I'M A CRIPPLE.

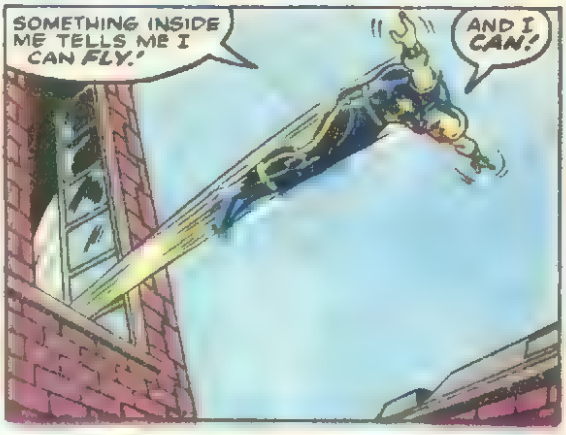
YOUR LEGS AREN'T WHAT IS CRIPPLING YOU, PETER... IT'S WHAT'S INSIDE YOU... YOU'VE ALLOWED YOURSELF TO BECOME BITTER, MOROSE. AND I CAN ONLY PRAY FOR YOU.

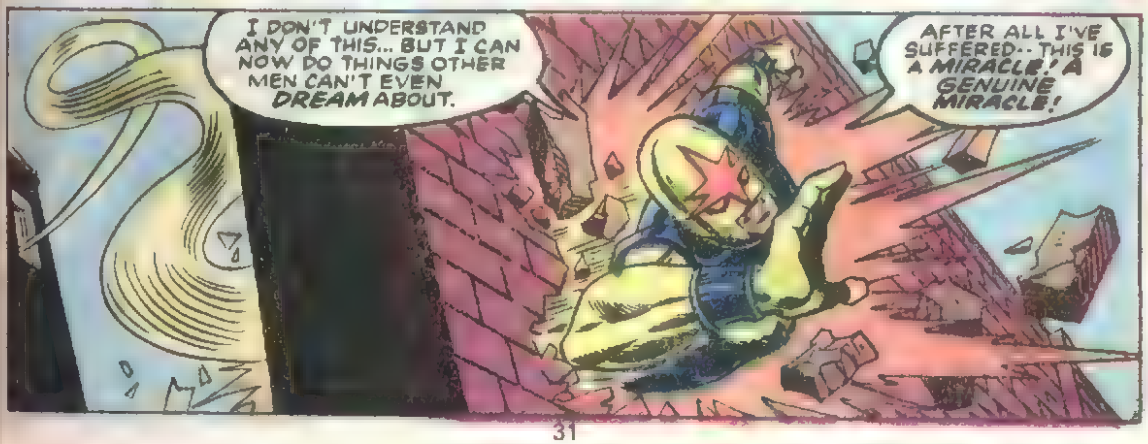

"THERE IS NOTHING HE CAN DO FOR THE BROODING PETER PARKER, SO PROFESSOR WARREN LEAVES THE YOUTH ALONE... IN THE DARKNESS OF THE SOMBER LAB...
I DIDN'T WANT HIM BOTHERING ME... I DON'T WANT ANYONE BUTTING IN ON MY AFFAIRS.
I-I CAN'T ALLOW MYSELF TO GET CLOSE TO ANYONE... NOT EVER AGAIN.
EVERYTIME I BELIEVE THERE'S SOME HOPE IN THE WORLD-- IT'S DASHED! I-I CAN'T ACCEPT FAILURE EVER AGAIN!


"IT IS THEN THAT FATE DEALS A MIRACULOUS HAND. FROM AN UNSEEN SPACE SHIP ORBITING THE EARTH, COMES A FLASHING EMERALD RAY...
HUH! WHAT IN THE WORLD--?


WH-WHAT HAPPENED TO ME? HOW DID THIS STRANGE COSTUME GET ON ME? WHAT'S GOING ON?!?
I-I FEEL DIFFERENT... I CAN SENSE IT, I FEEL AS IF I CAN...


I'M STANDING! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE, AND YET I'M ACTUALLY STANDING.
AND THERE'S MORE I CAN DO!


SOMETHING INSIDE ME TELLS ME I CAN FLY!
AND I CAN!


I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANY OF THIS... BUT I CAN NOW DO THINGS OTHER MEN CAN'T EVEN DREAM ABOUT.
AFTER ALL I'VE SUFFERED-- THIS IS A MIRACLE! A GENUINE MIRACLE!

I'LL HAVE TO TEST THESE NEW ABILITIES... ANALYZE THEM... LEARN THEIR LIMITS... DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH THEM.

ALL I KNOW IS A WHOLE NEW WORLD HAS BEEN OPENED UP TO ME -- AND THIS TIME I'M NOT GOING TO BLOW IT!

UNCLE BEN! HE'D KNOW WHAT TO DO!

HE'S PUT UP WITH ME THROUGH ALL MY ILL YEARS --

IT'S ABOUT TIME I SHARED MY TRIUMPH WITH HIM!

Hunh? A BURGLAR BREAKING INTO OUR HOME?

WELL, HE WON'T KNOW WHAT HIT HIM!

ALL RIGHT, MISTER -- FREEZE!

WHAT? WHO ARE YOU? WHAT DO YOU WANT?

WHAT DO YOU THINK, MISTER? I WANT EVERY-THING!

AND THIS GUN I'M HOLDIN' SAYS I'M GONNA GET IT -- ALL!

ALL RIGHT, MISTER -- C'MON -- MOVE!

JUST DON'T PULL THAT TRIGGER, CREEP. GIVE ME A SECOND. THAT'S ALL THE TIME I NEED!

WHY AREN'T YOU GETTIN' UP, MISTER? C'MON, I AIN'T AFRAID OF USING THIS PIECE.

MOVE! YOU HEAR ME? MOVE, BLAST YOU!



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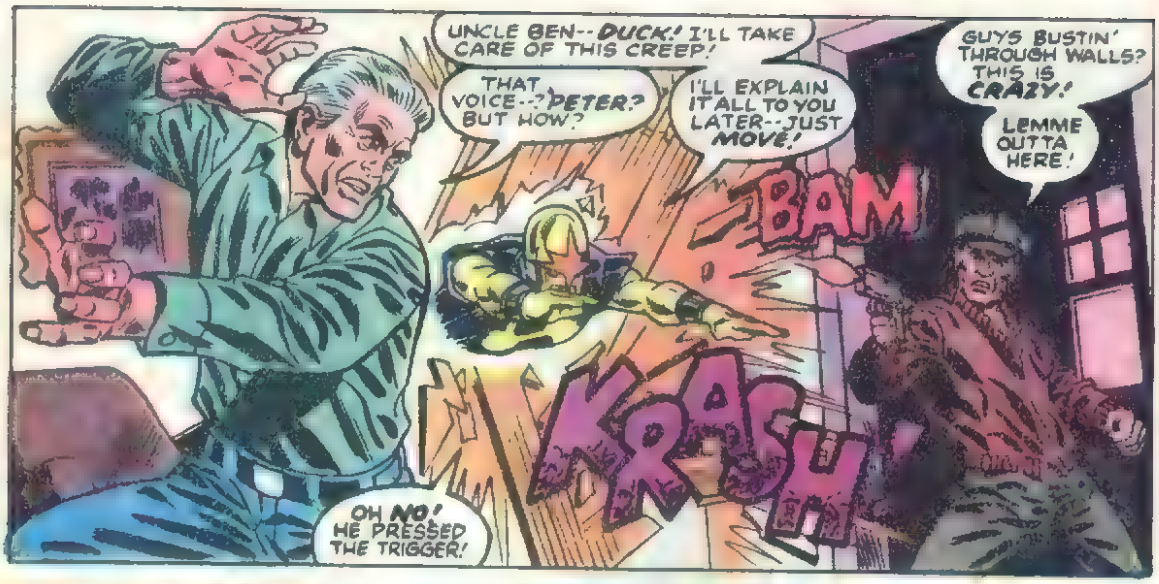
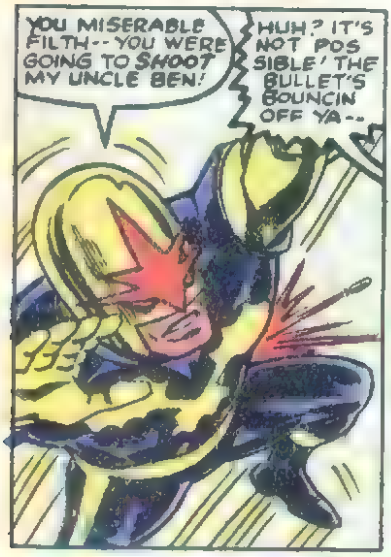
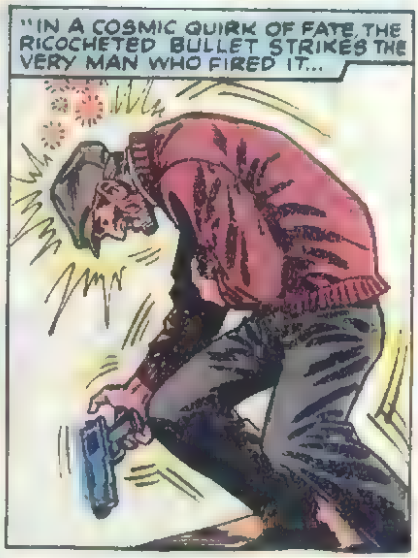
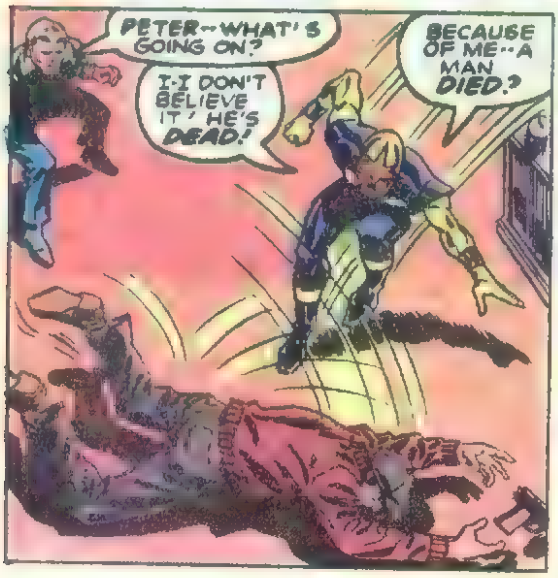

UNCLE BEN--DUCK! I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS CREEP!
THAT VOICE--? PETER? BUT HOW?
I'LL EXPLAIN IT ALL TO YOU LATER--JUST MOVE!
GUYS BUSTIN' THROUGH WALLS? THIS IS CRAZY!
LEMME OUTTA HERE!
BAM
KRASH
OH NO! HE PRESSED THE TRIGGER!

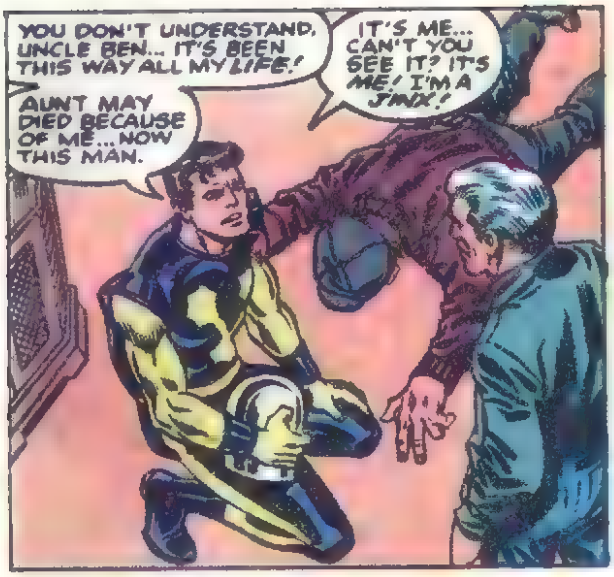

YOU MISERABLE FILTH--YOU WERE GOING TO SHOOT MY UNCLE BEN!
HUH? IT'S NOT POSSIBLE! THE BULLET'S BOUNCIN OFF YA--

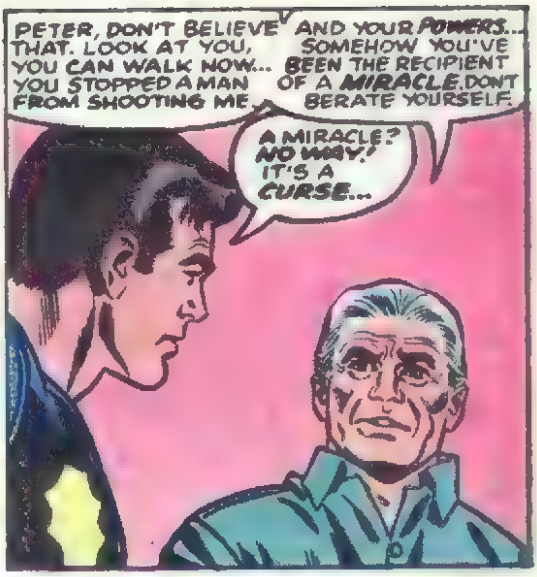
NO!!!
NO!!!


"IN A COSMIC QUIRK OF FATE, THE RICOCHETED BULLET STRIKES THE VERY MAN WHO FIRED IT...

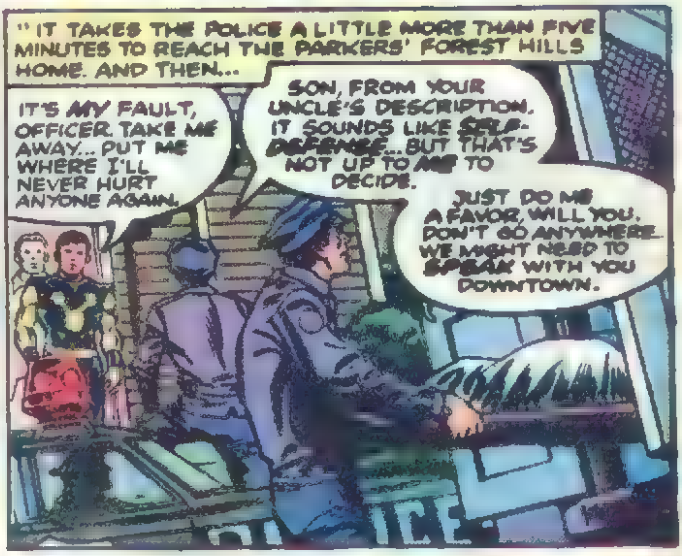

PETER--WHAT'S GOING ON?
I-I DON'T BELIEVE IT! HE'S DEAD!
BECAUSE OF ME--A MAN DIED?

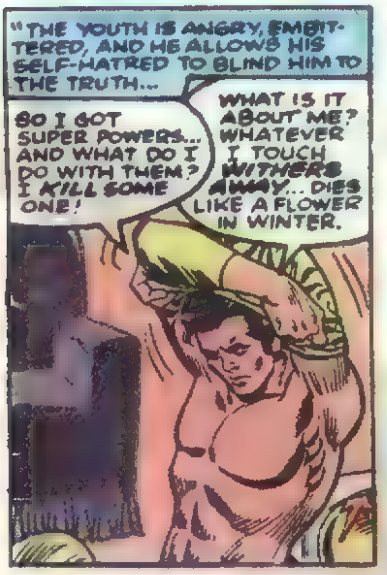
NO MATTER WHAT I TRY TO DO--IT ALWAYS ENDS IN TRAGEDY!
DON'T THINK THAT WAY, PETER--HE ATTACKED US!

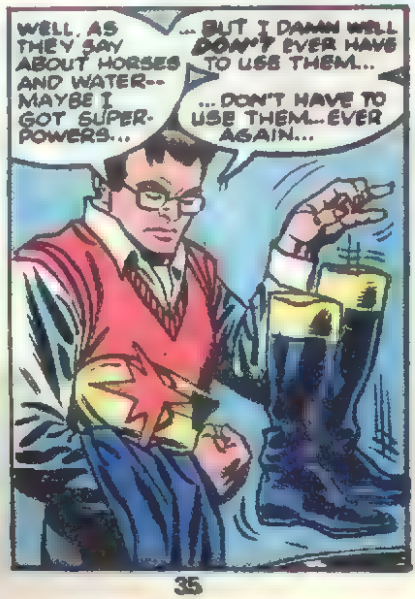

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, UNCLE BEN... IT'S BEEN THIS WAY ALL MY LIFE!
IT'S ME... CAN'T YOU SEE IT? IT'S ME! I'M A JINX!
AUNT MAY DIED BECAUSE OF ME... NOW THIS MAN.

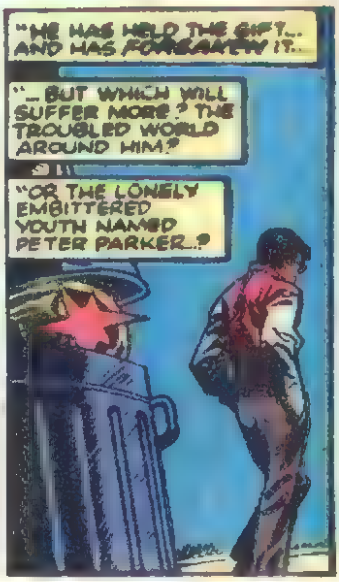

PETER, DON'T BELIEVE THAT. LOOK AT YOU, YOU CAN WALK NOW... YOU STOPPED A MAN FROM SHOOTING ME.
AND YOUR POWERS... SOMEHOW YOU'VE BEEN THE RECIPIENT OF A MIRACLE. DON'T BERATE YOURSELF.
A MIRACLE? NO WAY! IT'S A CURSE...

AND IT'S A CURSE I CAN'T LIVE WITH ANY LONGER.
HELLO... POLICE? THERE'S BEEN A MURDER!


"IT TAKES THE POLICE A LITTLE MORE THAN FIVE MINUTES TO REACH THE PARKERS' FOREST HILLS HOME. AND THEN...
IT'S MY FAULT, OFFICER. TAKE ME AWAY... PUT ME WHERE I'LL NEVER HURT ANYONE AGAIN.
SON, FROM YOUR UNCLE'S DESCRIPTION, IT SOUNDS LIKE SELF-DEFENSE... BUT THAT'S NOT UP TO ME TO DECIDE.
JUST DO ME A FAVOR, WILL YOU. DON'T GO ANYWHERE WE MIGHT NEED TO SPEAK WITH YOU DOWNTOWN.


"THE YOUTH IS ANGRY, EMBITTERED, AND HE ALLOWS HIS SELF-HATRED TO BLIND HIM TO THE TRUTH...
SO I GOT SUPER POWERS... AND WHAT DO I DO WITH THEM? I KILL SOME ONE!
WHAT IS IT ABOUT ME? WHATEVER I TOUCH WITHERS AWAY... DIES LIKE A FLOWER IN WINTER.


WELL, AS THEY SAY ABOUT HORSES AND WATER-- MAYBE I GOT SUPER-POWERS...
... BUT I DAMN WELL DON'T EVER HAVE TO USE THEM...
... DON'T HAVE TO USE THEM... EVER AGAIN...


"HE HAS HELD THE GIFT... AND HAS FORSAKEN IT...
"... BUT WHICH WILL SUFFER MORE? THE TROUBLED WORLD AROUND HIM?"
"OR THE LONELY EMBITTERED YOUTH NAMED PETER PARKER...?

NOW LET US VIEW ONE *FINAL* REALITY... UPON A WORLD WHICH HAS PERHAPS SUFFERED THE WORST TRAGEDY OF ALL.

"FOR ON THIS WORLD, THE DECEASED CENTURION'S SATELLITE SERVES A SINISTER PURPOSE...

ART: *PEREZ PALMER*

"...AS THE UNSEEN, UNDETECTABLE *HEADQUARTERS*...

"...OF THE WORLD'S MOST INFAMOUS *VILLAINS*...

IT IS *DONE*. THE FANTASTIC FOUR LIE *DEFEATED*, THEIR LIVES EXPUNGED BY THE PEERLESS POWER OF VICTOR VON DOOM!

AT LAST THE GAME IS *OVER!*

CAN'T YOU SIMPLY SAY THEY ARE *DEAD?* MUST YOU ALWAYS SPEAK AS THOUGH CONQUEST IS BUT A *RECREATION?*

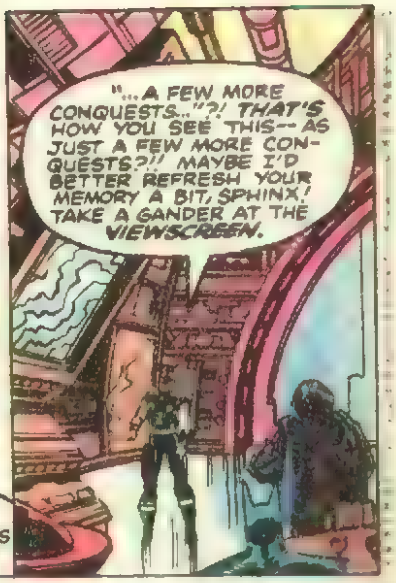
ACTS OF TYRANNY AND MURDER SHOULD BE BASKED IN *FULLY*, DOOM, NOT HIDDEN AWAY WITH *WORDS!*

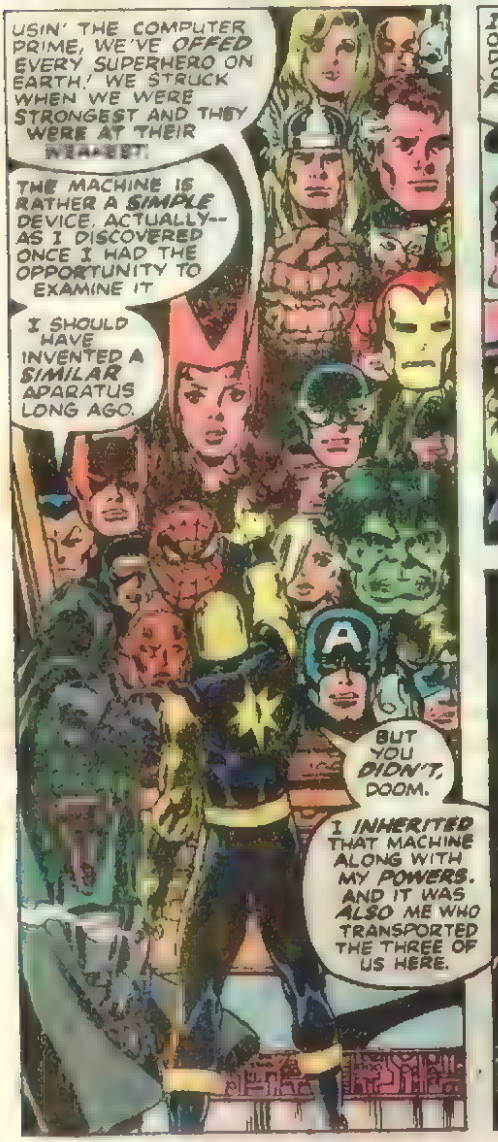
BAH! YOU SIMPLY FAIL TO UNDERSTAND THE *SUBTLETIES* OF CONQUEST!

LOOK, JUST THIS ONCE *CAN* THE PHILOSOPHICAL DEBATES!

I MEAN, WE SHOULD BE CELEBRATIN'! WE'VE DONE WHAT NO OTHER VILLAINS COULD EVER DREAM! BUT INSTEAD OF WHOOPING IT UP, YOU TWO KEEP BICKERING--

--WHILE STONEFACE JUST SITS AND STARES INTO SPACE!
C'MON, PLASTER-PUSS, GIVE US A GRIN. YOU'RE ON THE SIDE OF THE WORLD-BEATERS, REMEMBER?
WHAT DO A FEW MORE CONQUESTS MATTER TO THE SPHINX?
FOR ME IT IS ALL THE SAME. LIFE GOES ON. AND ON.

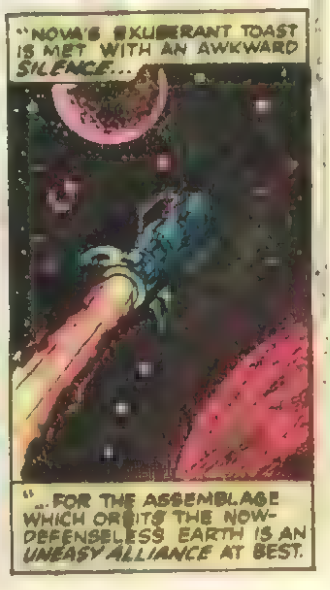

"...A FEW MORE CONQUESTS..."?! THAT'S HOW YOU SEE THIS--AS JUST A FEW MORE CONQUESTS?!! MAYBE I'D BETTER REFRESH YOUR MEMORY A BIT, SPHINX! TAKE A GANDER AT THE VIEWSCREEN.


USIN' THE COMPUTER PRIME, WE'VE OFFED EVERY SUPERHERO ON EARTH! WE STRUCK WHEN WE WERE STRONGEST AND THEY WERE AT THEIR WEAKEST!
THE MACHINE IS RATHER A SIMPLE DEVICE, ACTUALLY--AS I DISCOVERED ONCE I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXAMINE IT
I SHOULD HAVE INVENTED A SIMILAR APARATUS LONG AGO.
BUT YOU DIDN'T, DOOM.
I INHERITED THAT MACHINE ALONG WITH MY POWERS. AND IT WAS ALSO ME WHO TRANSPORTED THE THREE OF US HERE.

I'M THE ORGANIZER OF THIS GROUP, AND DON'T ANY OF YOU FORGET IT!
BAH! IS THE PEASANT THAT BUYS THE HEN THE LAYER OF THE EGGS?

I APPRECIATE THE WAY YOU STATE YOUR POSITION, NOVA. IT IS SO REFRESHINGLY DIRECT NEXT TO DOOM'S CIRCUMLOCUTIONS AND THE SPHINX' IRRITATING SILENCES!

THEN... A TOAST TO NOVA, MASTER OF THE MASTER VILLAINS!


"NOVA'S EXUBERANT TOAST IS MET WITH AN AWKWARD SILENCE...
"...FOR THE ASSEMBLAGE WHICH ORBITS THE NOW-DEFENSELESS EARTH IS AN UNEASY ALLIANCE AT BEST.

PREDICTABLY, THE OCCASION DOES NOT SLIP EASILY FROM THE MINDS OF THOSE PRESENT WHEN THEY RETIRE TO THEIR INDIVIDUAL CHAMBERS HOURS LATER...

THE NOVICE NOVA, HAS DEVELOPED THE AUDACITY TO ADDRESS DOOM AS A *FAMILIAR*, WHILE THE *RED SKULL* GRATES AS EVER UPON MY NERVES.

SUCH ASSUMPTIONS OF EQUALITY MUST *CEASE!*

I *ALLOWED* SUCH BEHAVIOR WHILE WE WERE OVERCOMING OUR *COMMON ENEMIES*, BUT NOW IT MUST BE MADE *CLEAR*--

--THAT IT IS *DOOM* WHO WILL DETERMINE OUR FUTURE COURSE

*MEANWHILE...*

*WHEW!* FOR A MINUTE THERE I THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO HAVE BIG TROUBLE WITH DOOMSEY AND THE RED SKULL. BUT I GUESS SOME GUYS JUST HAVE TO KNOW HOW FAR THEY CAN *PUSH* YOU.

THEY JUST NEEDED TO BE PUT IN LINE. THAT'S ALL. THEY WON'T TRY ANYTHING NOW THAT I'VE MADE IT CLEAR WHO'S IN *CHARGE*.

WAIT! WHAT'S THAT *GLOW*--?

BE *CALM*, MY FRIEND. IT IS ONLY DOOM.

I COME SEEKING ONLY THE MEREST OF TRIFLINGS. THE LIBERTY TO ENTER YOUR *CHAMBER*, THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE IN BUT BUT THE BRIEFEST OF *CONVERSATIONS*.

...AND THE PLEASURE OF *ENDING* YOUR LIFE!

KRAKKLE

*WHHOAA!* NICE TRY, DOOM-- BUT I'M CALLED THE *HUMAN ROCKET* FOR A *REASON!*

SHROOM!

AND I THINK MY *SPEED* MAY HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH IT!

NOT TO MENTION THE POWER OF MY HIGH-VELOCITY FISTS!

BAH! IT WOULD TAKE MUCH MORE THAN YOU CAN MUSTER TO PENETRATE MY ARMOR

PLANG!

BUT YOU WOULD NEVER SURVIVE ITS ARSENAL OF OFFENSIVE WEAPONRY.

STILL, IT WOULD BE A SHAME TO WASTE SUCH POWER AS YOU POSSESS. SO IF YOU WILL CEASE RIGHT NOW YOUR FOOLISH ATTACKS--AND SWEAR YOUR ALLEGIANCE TO ME...

...DOOM WILL ALLOW YOU TO LIVE!

ARE YOU CRAZY?

I BROUGHT YOU GUYS HERE--I GAVE YOU THE MEANS TO KILL YOUR WORST ENEMIES!

LET ME BE THE BOSS! YOU OWE IT TO ME!

FOOL! THE RIGHT TO RULE CANNOT BE ASSUMED BY ANYONE WHO FINDS ITS TRAPPINGS!

ONLY DOOM--ARGGH!

ONLY DOOM HAS THE RIGHT TO RULE...

DOOM! WHAT IS IT? IF THIS IS SOME SORT OF TRICK--!

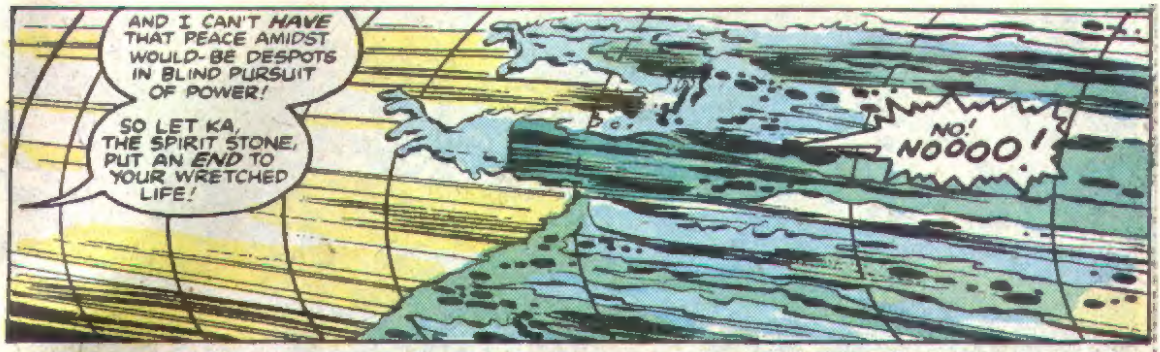
BUT NO... IT CAN'T BE. YOU'RE DEAD!

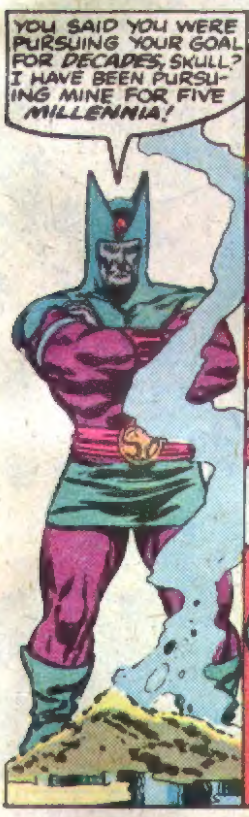
THE DECEIT IS NOT HIS, UPSTART!



CONTINUED AFTER 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

IT IS THE RED SKULL'S!
I HAVE SOUGHT WORLD RULE FOR DECADES-- AND NONE BUT I SHALL DOMINATE THE MINDLESS INFERIORS THAT POPULATE THE EARTH NOW THAT SUCH POWER IS FINALLY WITHIN MY GRASP!
NO, SKULL... I WILL LEAD. YOU CAN WORK... FOR ME, MAYBE EVEN... WITH ME-- BUT I WON'T BE LEFT OUT!
THE SKULL WORKS WITH NO ONE! THE SKULL MUST BE SUPREME! IT IS MY DESTINY!
DESTINY?! HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THE TALE I TOLD YOU OF MY ORIGINS?
OUT OF COUNTLESS MILLIONS, I WAS BESTOWED WITH THIS POWER!
SPUNCH!
THAT IS FATE, SKULL! THAT IS DESTINY!
I REMEMBER YOUR TALE ALL TOO WELL, INCLUDING THE CENTURION'S WORDS...
YOU WEREN'T CHOSEN, YOU WERE PICKED AT RANDOM!
FOOL! A MAN MAKES HIS OWN DESTINY!
QUITE TRUE, SKULL...
FRAZZ
...AND I AM MAKING MINE.
AH! AT LAST WE SEE. THE SILENT ONE, TOO, LUSTS FOR POWER!
NO, YOU ARE WRONG. I SEEK ONLY THE PEACE TO PURSUE MY OWN END.


AND I CAN'T HAVE THAT PEACE AMIDST WOULD-BE DESPOTS IN BLIND PURSUIT OF POWER!
SO LET KA, THE SPIRIT STONE, PUT AN END TO YOUR WRETCHED LIFE!
NO! NOOOO!


YOU SAID YOU WERE PURSUING YOUR GOAL FOR DECADES, SKULL? I HAVE BEEN PURSUING MINE FOR FIVE MILLENNIA!

ABRUPTLY...
WOM!
TURN AROUND, BLAST IT!

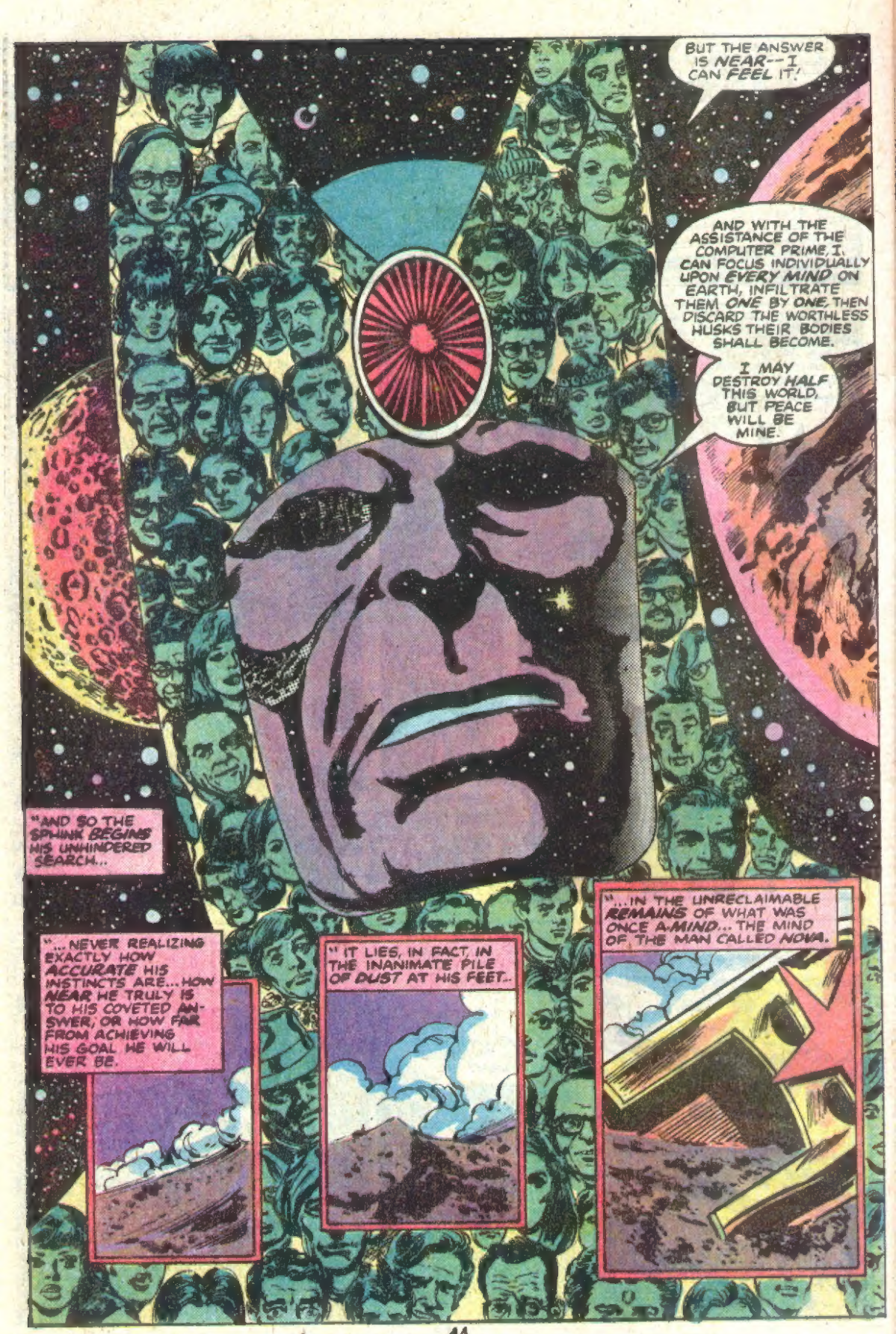
Eh?
I'VE TAKEN ENOUGH INSUBORDINATION HERE! SPHINX, IF YOU'RE GOING TO OPPOSE ME LET'S GET IT OVER WITH. BUT YOU WON'T UNLESS IT'S OVER MY--

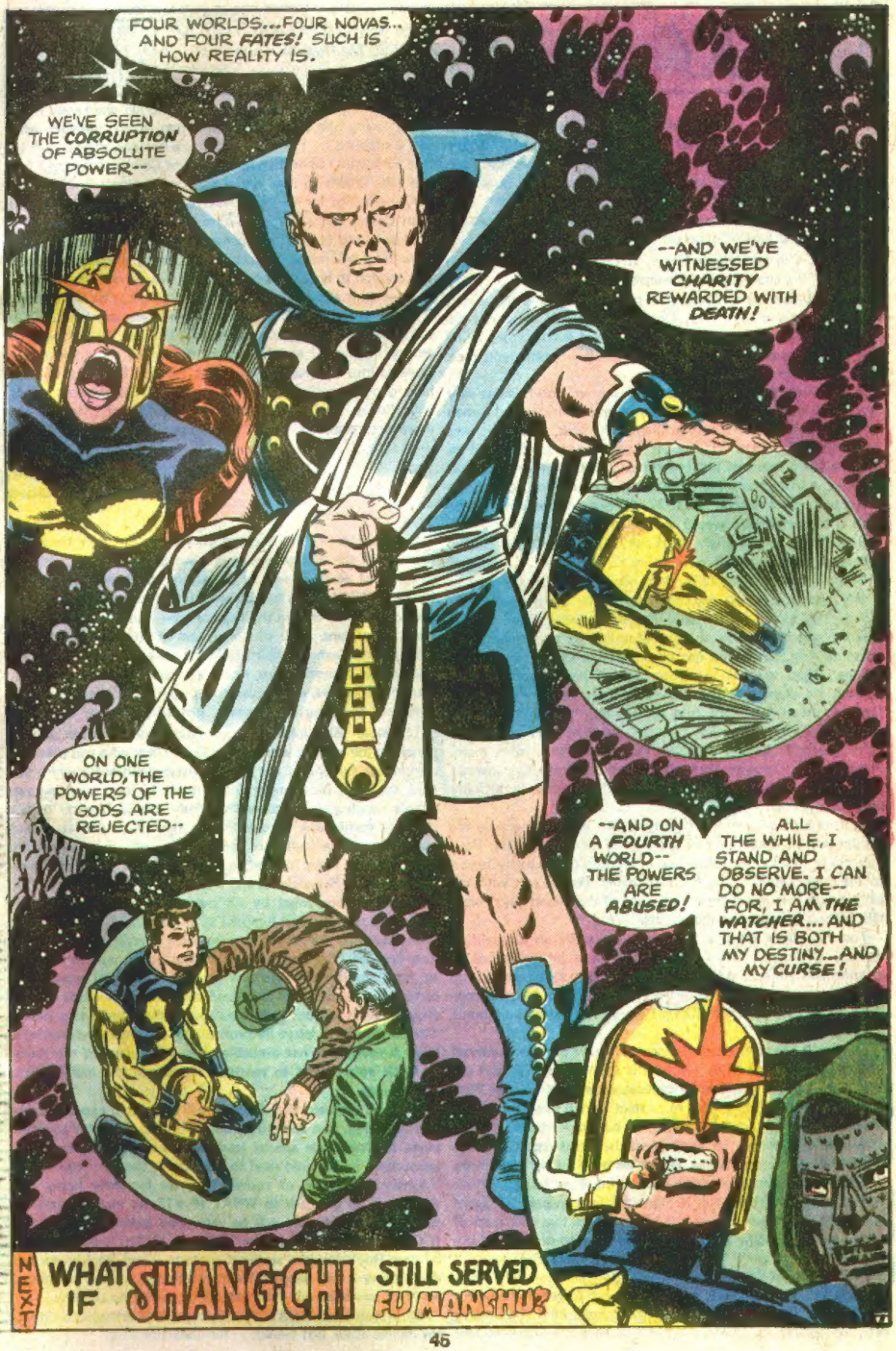
OVER YOUR CORPSE? SO BE IT!
SISST!
AFTER FIFTY CENTURIES, MY PATIENCE, TOO, IS AT AN END.

AT LAST! NO OTHER SUPER-POWERED BEINGS EXIST TO OBSTRUCT ME IN MY SEARCH.

NOW I'M FREE TO FIND THE ANSWER TO THE ONE QUESTION WHICH HAS ELUDED ME FOR CENTURIES.
THE ANSWER THAT I KNOW LIES WITHIN THE SUBCONSCIOUS OF ONE FACELESS HUMAN!

FOR CENTURIES I HAVE LIVED SEEKING NOTHING BUT DEATH! FOR MILLENNIA I HAVE SOUGHT NOTHING BUT THE PEACEFUL BALM OF NONEXISTENCE!
YET I AM CURSED NEVER TO KNOW PEACE UNTIL MY MYSTERY IS SOLVED.


BUT THE ANSWER IS NEAR--I CAN FEEL IT!
AND WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE COMPUTER PRIME, I CAN FOCUS INDIVIDUALLY UPON EVERY MIND ON EARTH, INFILTRATE THEM ONE BY ONE, THEN DISCARD THE WORTHLESS HUSKS THEIR BODIES SHALL BECOME.
I MAY DESTROY HALF THIS WORLD, BUT PEACE WILL BE MINE.
"AND SO THE SPWINK BEGINS HIS UNHINDERED SEARCH...
"... NEVER REALIZING EXACTLY HOW ACCURATE HIS INSTINCTS ARE... HOW NEAR HE TRULY IS TO HIS COVETED ANSWER, OR HOW FAR FROM ACHIEVING HIS GOAL HE WILL EVER BE.
"IT LIES, IN FACT, IN THE INANIMATE PILE OF DUST AT HIS FEET..
"... IN THE UNRECLAIMABLE REMAINS OF WHAT WAS ONCE A-MIND... THE MIND OF THE MAN CALLED NOVA.


FOUR WORLDS...FOUR NOVAS... AND FOUR FATES! SUCH IS HOW REALITY IS.
WE'VE SEEN THE CORRUPTION OF ABSOLUTE POWER--
--AND WE'VE WITNESSED CHARITY REWARDED WITH DEATH!
ON ONE WORLD, THE POWERS OF THE GODS ARE REJECTED--
--AND ON A FOURTH WORLD-- THE POWERS ARE ABUSED!
ALL THE WHILE, I STAND AND OBSERVE. I CAN DO NO MORE-- FOR, I AM THE WATCHER... AND THAT IS BOTH MY DESTINY...AND MY CURSE!
NEXT
WHAT IF SHANG-CHI STILL SERVED FU MANCHU?